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LORD CANNING AND THE GOVERNMENT.

THE public have gone through several phases of opinion about what may be called the sentimental side of the Indian question. When the first news of the mutiny came,—and in the first instance mutiny meant massacre,—their indignation was naturally unbounded. They were prepared for any severity. They urged the most terrible chastisement of those who, having broken through their oaths of loyalty, had consummated their perjury by bloodshed. This wholesome strictness lasted for a time. But by-and-bye there was a re-action. A part of the public is philanthropic; a part is prudent; a part is good-natured. Success makes nations, as it makes individuals, good-natured. When the English found that the mutiny proper was suppressed, and that the affair resolved itself into a war against a lately-annexed province, they became still more gentle and reasonable. While in this special humour, they heard that the Governor-General of India had issued his bull against the whole proprietors of the nation of Oude. This was a final surprise; and it becomes a serious question how the

public ought to act upon intelligence so important. In the present state of politics, there is no doubt that it will be seized on by men who have interests one way or the other, and will be worked politically without the least reference to moral considerations. Under such circumstances, all an impartial person can do is to state the question to himself in a quiet, homely, and candid kind of way, and to try and determine what is best for India and for Britain, as if there was not a Whig or Tory in the world.

Oude does not stand towards Great Britain in this quarrel on the same footing that other parts of India do. It had only recently become our province; its internal organisation was native and hereditary; and the propriety of the measure which brought it closer to us was questioned by a large party among ourselves. To be sure (as we long ago said), it was ripe for annexation. But we have to deal with a comparison between political crimes. Everything that can be said in excuse for the rising of any native of Hindostan, tells tenfold in excuse for the native of Oude. He lived in greater ignorance of what was

good in our rule, and at the same time under more natural exasperation at what was bad in it, than anybody else with whom we crossed swords. Other people might resent our superiority or fear our proselytism; the native of Oude took his chance of these annoyances, with the great annoyance of the loss of his independence quite green and fresh.

Accordingly, it seems reasonable enough to believe that this was a people which ought to have been dealt with reasonably. When their towns were taken, and the general superiority of our arms conspicuously displayed, an opportunity arose (as one would think) of showing to all India that England did not fight to destroy everything, but only to maintain a superiority of her own, which, having a moral basis to rest upon, could not disgrace such foundation by any excesses. Unfortunately, Lord Canning did not take so mild and thoughtful a view. He informed the entire province that though those who fought for him would be allowed to keep their hereditary lands (no wonderful gratitude!),—all the rest of the soil was absolutely confiscated. This terrifying announcement must naturally make



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all who are committed against us desperate; and provoke whatever neutral balance there may be, by its comprehensive severity.

Of course, it may be argued, that such a principle was never meant to be literally carried out; and that the fatal *dictum* is qualified by other paragraphs in the proclamation. But there it stands, and it is too distinct to be passed over. Now we venture to say that it is a very unjust principle to maintain, that when any province makes a political rising the whole soil of that province is to be confiscated. The Russians never acted on such a principle in Poland; nor the Hanover family in Scotland, after the '45; nor the old Romans in their conquered countries. And, apart from the morals of the matter, how questionable its prudence! It is now generally admitted, that one of our fundamental mistakes in Bengal was when we disturbed the old landed rights by our regulations about the zemindars under Lord Cornwallis.

Since the present Ministry undertook to rebuke Lord Canning for the severity in question, our newspapers have discovered virtues and talents in his Lordship which were never before suspected to exist by his most intimate friends. We are never eager to depreciate any man's merit, and we cheerfully admit that Lord Canning behaved most respectably in a situation which altogether would have puzzled Julius Cæsar. But the question is, and simply is, whether this particular declaration of his Lordship's—viz., that the whole soil of Oude belongs to his Government in fee simple—is a true principle to hold, or a wise principle to announce to a people with whom he is fighting? We cannot believe that it is—not because Lord Ellenborough says that it is not, nor because Lord Derby happens to be "in" when it is condemned; but because of certain moral and historical principles in the maintenance of which we should be happy to back up anybody—the Pope, or Mr. Urquhart, or Lord Palmerston, or Mr. Cuffey. Why is Mr. Bright (one of the cleverest men in these kingdoms) to be grossly and personally abused because he happens to be of a similar way of thinking on this occasion?

With the subordinate features of the matter—why the secret despatch was published, &c.—we feel little inclination to meddle. People are lucky, now a-days, if they know anything about what Governments are at, in India or elsewhere. Only the other day, wars used to be made without a hint being given to Parliament, and questions on the subject were laughed at by an old gentleman who had that levity without gaiety which destroys the dignity of age. Let us make the most of what can be got; and carry on the session as peaceably as we can, so as to prevent our having the whole political ears of the country let loose upon us during the dog-days by a dissolution.

The recent telegrams from India show clearly enough that there is a heavy summer campaign before our troops, and that our difficulties ought not to be complicated by any political impudence on the part of the local government. We are willing enough to see Lord Canning remain at his post, and indeed see nothing in the late despatch which should make him resign it. In fact, judging from the antecedents of that potentate, he is not the man rashly to abandon a situation of so much importance.

THE QUEEN OF PORTUGAL

THE arrival of the Queen of Portugal, on Thursday week, refreshed the elegant idleness of our court. Her Majesty was married—by proxy—on the Thursday previous at Berlin. The ceremony was performed in the Catholic church of St. Edwige; the hereditary Prince of Hohenzollern, brother of the bride, representing the King of Portugal.

Though only married by proxy, the Queen received all the honours of a sovereign from the time the marriage ritual was performed. It was a Queen, and not as Princess Stephanie of Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen, that she was received at our Court. Her Majesty made the most of her short visit; on Saturday she was present at the Crystal Palace in the morning—held a diplomatic reception at Buckingham Palace in the afternoon, and went to the Opera House in the evening. On Monday she visited the Royal Academy, and was present, of course, at the state ball given by our own Queen on the evening of that day.

Her Majesty's visit terminated on Tuesday; and on Wednesday at three o'clock a.m. she sailed from Plymouth in the Portuguese steam corvette *Bartholomeo Diaz*. She is attended on her voyage by Admiral Chads' squadron, the *Renouen* (91), *Diadem* (32), *Curaçoa* (31), and *Raroon* (22).

The Queen of Portugal is about the middle height and very good-looking, with none of the more striking peculiarities of her nation. Her hair is dark, her complexion very clear, and she has a frank, unaffected manner. Her Majesty and suite occupied the same apartments tenanted by the Emperor and Empress of the French when at Buckingham Palace, viz., those in the front, overlooking St. James's Park.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

THE new election for the 5th district, rendered necessary by the incompleteness of that which took place on the 26th ult., has ended in a triumph for the Opposition. M. Eck, the Government candidate, had 8,976 votes; M. Picard, his opponent, polled 10,323. This majority secures the seat for Picard.

In a debate in the Corps Legislatif on Saturday, objections against the Paris Improvements Bill were urged with considerable force and spirit by several members. The bill was voted by 180 suffrages against 45, and the session being over, the house separated with the customary cries of "Vive l'Empereur!" The minority in a house consisting, with four exceptions, of Government nominees, is strikingly large.

The idea of placing Prince Napoleon at the head of the French Mediterranean colony has been ventilated. It is proposed to name him Governor-General, Lieutenant of the Emperor.

The Queen of Holland, grand-daughter of the late Russian Emperor Paul, daughter of the King of Wurtemberg, and niece of Prince Jerome, is on a visit to the French Court, where she is treated with great distinction.

The French Government will concentrate both its naval squadrons, that of Toulon as well as that of Brest, at the approaching review at Cherbourg.

SPAIN.

THERE seems to be another crisis in Spain—almost a *coup d'état*. The Queen has superseded the sitting of the Cortes; and the Minister of the Interior has tendered his resignation.

The Duchess de Montpensier is suffering from a nervous malady, which causes great uneasiness to her friends.

AUSTRIA.

A CIRCULAR from the Austrian Cabinet has been forwarded to its various legations, laying down the course intended to be pursued on the Italian question. The principal point urged is, that Sardinia is not to be allowed to speak in the name of entire Italy; and it is believed that the smaller Italian Courts have been urged to express themselves with the same regard to modesty.

PRUSSIA.

THE Royal family have gone into mourning for the death of the infant daughter of Prince Frederick-Charles, born on the 28th of February last.

The Prince and Princess Frederick-William are to visit Königsberg towards the end of June; great preparations are already begun for their reception.

Letters from St. Petersburg announce in a positive manner that the Princess Dowager of Russia will visit St. Petersburg at the end of July or the beginning of August, and that she will remain there for three weeks before proceeding to Wildbad.

RUSSIA.

The little revolts of peasantry in Russia which began a short time since in the district of Georgenburg become more numerous, and extend to the extremity of Russia, for we hear of some having taken place near Bardousk, on the Oka, not far from Orsk; but they do not assume a character menacing to the government, and are promptly terminated whenever the authorities intervene.

It is again reported that Prince Gortschakoff is on the point of quitting the ministry of foreign affairs. Differences of opinion on some essential points which have arisen in the council of ministers are said to have caused the President to decide on tendering his resignation.

ITALY.

THE question of the *Cagliari* is to be submitted to arbitration, it seems. Prussia, Russia, and Holland are each named as the arbitrator.

The population of Massa-Carrara are emigrating in such numbers that the Modenese troops are formed into a cordon on the frontier to put a stop to the movement. Twelve persons were recently condemned by the court-martial at Carrara to various terms of hard labour or imprisonment, for belonging to a secret revolutionary society, or having arms in their possession. The Duke of Modena has issued a decree, forbidding all parents or guardians, under rigid penalties, to send their children or wards to foreign schools or universities without previous permission obtained from the Minister of the Interior.

The state of the Pope's health is causing great anxiety to his physicians, by whose advice he is about to take another tour—this time towards the Neapolitan frontier.

TURKEY AND THE EAST.

A DIFFICULTY existing between Turkey and Greece, originating in the expulsion of Greek subjects from Bosnia, has been referred to the mediation of England, France, and Russia, which Powers have accepted the task of reconciliation.

The "Monitor" says:—"Turkey threatens to invade Montenegro. The French Government, in order to avoid a conflict, invited England to co-operate, and prevent hostilities. It has been decided to send commissioners there to arrange difficulties."

Letters from Russia state that the Turkish steamer-*Silbistrin*, and a ship of the line, with 3,500 men and twelve field-pieces on board, have entered the port of Kio.

AMERICA.

THE report of the Kansas Conference Committee was being debated in Congress when our latest advices were dispatched. The Senate was also debating the resolutions authorising the President to demand redress of grievances for Paraguay.

The Washington correspondent of the "New York Herald" says the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty will be abrogated. Lord Napier, having received no instructions from the Derby administration on the subject, will not attempt to re-open negotiations for the present.

From Nicaragua, we learn that the treaty with the United States had been ratified by the Nicaraguan Assembly, and the exclusive control of the transit route had been given to the American, Atlantic, and Pacific Ship Canal Company. The transit was expected to be re-opened in about two months.

News from Mexico reports that the rebel leader, Gandana, was defeated and slain with one hundred of his followers.

A report had been published to the effect that 20,000 Indians had concentrated on the plains preparatory to attacking the frontier settlements. The Indians had been incited to do this by Brigham Young, in order to divert the attention of the forces en route for Utah.

The Red Republicans have commemorated the execution of Orsini and Pierri by a torchlight procession of 2,500 persons through the streets of New York. Inflammatory speeches were delivered.

CHINA.

ALL continued quiet in China. Lord Elgin had reached Ningpo. Admiral Seymour left Hong Kong on the 21st of March, it was believed for Shanghai. General Straubenzee had returned to Canton.

TRAVELLING IN AFRICA.—Letters have been received at the Cape from the Rev. Mr. Hahn, of the Berlin Missionary Society, who, with the Rev. Mr. Rath, had undertaken a missionary tour, à la Livingstone, northwards as far as the Cunene River, but without the success which attended the explorations of the great traveller. They had intended to take a circuitous route from their station, New Barmen, on the west coast, to Lake Ngami; thence to the Libebe, and on to the sources of the Cunene, following its course to the west; and on their return to visit Ondongo. This plan they were obliged to abandon for a shorter cut in a N.E. direction towards Libebe. This course they pursued for several weeks, and penetrated till within five days of the banks of the Cunene, where their progress was stopped by the refusal of the chief of Ondongo to furnish them with guides. They therefore resolved to retrace their steps, but while inspecting (yoking the oxen) for that purpose, they were attacked by an overwhelming force. The missionary party, who, it appears, consisted of about thirty persons, made a most determined resistance, and the conflict lasted from dawn till noon, when they narrowly escaped with their lives, and ultimately succeeded in returning to their station, New Barmen.

AN ALARMING FREAK.—One night last week the bell of the church of St. Sauveur, at Caen, was alarmed by hearing a jingling of the bell, and, without waiting to put on all his clothes, went to the church, but found the door closed. He opened it, and immediately saw a man, completely naked, and covered with blood, crouching down underneath the large vase in which the holy water is kept, and who, on the door being opened, rushed out, naked as he was, and made his escape. Everything about the altar had been thrown into the greatest confusion. It was found that the author of the alarm was an idiot belonging to the town, who had concealed himself in the church in the evening with the idea that he might cure himself by taking a bath in the holy water. After having undressed himself, and performed his ablutions, he had attempted to climb to the top of the canopy of the altar, and in so doing had inflicted some severe wounds on his body.

WHAT NEXT!—By means of spirit-rapping, Baron Von Goldenrubbe, of Frankfurt, gives fac-similes of handwriting of Cæsar, Cleopatra, and even Homer, whose ability to trace characters has been questioned. A prescription written by Hippocrates has cured an old lady on the Rhine of acute rheumatism.

THE INDIAN REVOLT.

A TELEGRAPHIC despatch gives us the following intelligence:—"On the 8th of April a strong force marched for Bareilly."

"A hot weather campaign in Rohilund is considered inevitable. Here the enemy were 100,000 strong."

"The 13th Regiment, sent to relieve Azimghur, had a severe fight, in which twenty-five casualties occurred."

"Seaton had encountered and beaten the rebels on the 7th, taking three guns."

"Lucknow is perfectly tranquil; not a single armed man to be seen."

"The 4th Bengal Light Cavalry, 160 strong, has been brought to a court-martial at Umballah, sixty sentenced to be hanged, the remainder transported for life."

The "Pays" affirms that in a private despatch Sir Colin Campbell has urgently demanded large and immediate reinforcements, on account of the great losses the army has sustained by sickness and the enemy's fire. Notwithstanding the taking of Lucknow (says the "Pays"), Oude is in full insurrection, and the revolt, instead of being trodden out, extends daily.

THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT AND OUDE.

Soon after Lucknow was re-occupied, the following proclamation, prepared and dated several days before, was issued by the Governor-General:—

"PROCLAMATION."

"The army of his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief is in possession of Lucknow, and the city lies at the mercy of the British Government, whose authority it has for many months rebelliously defied and resisted. This assistance, begun by a mutinous soldiery, has found support from the hands of the city and of the province of Oude at large. Many who are their property to the British Government, as well as those who have themselves been aggrieved by it, have joined in this bad cause, and have aided themselves with the enemies of the State. They have been guilty of a crime, and have subjected themselves to a just retribution. The day of this day it will be held by a force which nothing can withstand, and the authority of the Government will be carried into every corner of the province. The time, then, has come at which the Right Honourable the Governor-General of India deems it right to make known the mode in which the British Government will deal with the talukdars, chiefs, and holders of Oude and their followers. The first care of the Governor-General will be to reward those who have been steadfast in their allegiance at a time when the authority of the Government was partially overborne, and who have proved this by the support and assistance which they have given to British officers."

"Therefore the Right Honourable the Governor-General hereby declares that Dhilljee Singh, Rajah of Bularpore; Koolwant Singh, Rajah of Pundhar; Rao Hurdeo Buhsh Singh, of Kuturree; Kishore Singh, Talukdar of Sissandee; Zuhur Singh, Zemindar of Gopul Khori; Chundeloll, Zemindar of Moroon (Baiswarah) are henceforward to be hereditary proprietors of the lands which they held when Oude came under British rule, subject only to such moderate assessment as may be imposed upon them, and that those loyal men will be further rewarded in a manner and to such extent as, upon consideration of their merits and position, the Governor-General shall determine. A proportionate measure of reward and honour according to their deserts will be conferred on others in whose favour like claims may be established to the satisfaction of the Government."

The Governor-General further proclaims to the people of Oude that with the above-mentioned exceptions, the proprietary right in the soil of the province is confiscated to the British Government, which will exercise that right in such manner as it may seem fitting. To those talukdars, chiefs, and landholders, with their followers, who shall make no submission to the Chief Commissioner of Oude, surrendering to him, and obeying his orders, the Right Honourable the Governor-General promises that their lives and honour shall be safe, provided that their lands are unstained with English blood murderously shed. But, as no further indulgence which may be extended to them, and the conditions in which they may hereafter be placed, they must throw themselves upon the justice and mercy of the British Government. To those among them who shall promptly come forward and give to the Chief Commissioner their support in the restoration of peace and order this indulgence will be forfeited, and the Governor-General will be ready to view liberally the claims which they may thus acquire to a restitution of their former rights."

"As participation in the murder of Englishmen and Englishwomen will exclude those who are guilty of it from all mercy, so will those who have protected English lives be specially entitled to consideration and leniency."

"By order of the Right Honourable the Governor-General of India, G. F. EDMONSTONE, Secretary to the Government of India."

Allahabad, March 14. The following is the despatch containing the censure of the Government on Lord Canning for the above proclamation. The despatch is dated April 19, and has been sent through the Secret Committee to the Governor-General. In laying this despatch before the House of Lords Lord Ellenborough said there were some paragraphs which it would be inconvenient to publish; but in the papers presented to the House of Commons, those paragraphs are inserted. They are paragraphs from 9 to 13, both inclusive, which we have bracketed.

"Our letter of the 21st of March, 1858, will have put you in possession of our general views with respect to the treatment of the people in the event of the evacuation of Lucknow by the enemy."

"2. On the 12th instant, we received from you a copy of the letter, dated the 3rd of March, addressed by your Secretary to the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner in Oude, which letter enclosed a copy of the proclamation to be issued by the Chief Commissioner as soon as the British troops should have command of the city of Lucknow, and conveyed instructions as to the manner in which he was to act with respect to different classes of persons, in execution of the views of the Governor-General."

"3. The people of Oude will see only the proclamation."

"4. That authoritative expression of the will of the Government informs the people that six persons, who are named as having been steadfast in their allegiance, are henceforward the sole hereditary proprietors of the lands they held when Oude came under British rule, subject only to such moderate assessment as may be imposed upon them; that others in whose favour like claims may be established will have conferred upon them a proportionate measure of reward and honour; and that with these exceptions the proprietary right in the soil of the province is confiscated to the British Government."

"5. We cannot but express to you our apprehension that this device, pronouncing the disherison of a people, will throw difficulties almost insurmountable in the way of the re-establishment of peace."

"6. We are under the impression that the war in Oude has derived much of its popular character from the rigorous manner in which, without regard to what the chief landholders had become accustomed to consider as their rights, the summary settlement had, in a large portion of the province, been carried out by your officers."

"7. The landholders of India are as much attached to the soil occupied by their ancestors, and are as sensitive with respect to the rights in the soil they deem themselves to possess, as the occupiers of land in any country of which we have a knowledge."

"8. Whatever may be your ultimate and undisclosed intentions, your Proclamations will appear to deprive the great body of the people of all hope upon the subject most dear to them as individuals, while the substitution of our rule for that of their native Sovereign has naturally excited against us whatever they may have of national feeling."

"9. We cannot but in justice consider that those who resist our authority in Oude are under very different circumstances from those who have acted against us in provinces which have been long under our government."

"10. We dethroned the King of Oude, and took possession of his kingdom by virtue of a treaty which had been subsequently modified by another treaty, under which, had it been held to be in force, the course we adopted could not have been lawfully pursued; but we held that it was not in force, although the fact of its not having been ratified in England, as regarded the provision on which we rely for our justification, had not been previously made known to the King of Oude."

"11. That Sovereign and his ancestors had been uniformly faithful to their treaty engagements with us, however ill they may have governed their subjects."

"12. They had more than once assisted us in our difficulties, and not a suspicion had ever been entertained of any hostile disposition on their part towards our Government."

"13. Suddenly the people saw their King taken from amongst them, and our administration substituted for his, which, however bad, was at least native, and this sudden change of Government was immediately followed by a summary settlement of the revenue, which, in a very considerable portion of the province, deprived the most influential landholders of what they deemed to be their property; of what certainly had long given wealth, and distinction, and power to their family."

"14. We must admit that, under these circumstances, the hostilities which have been carried on in Oude have rather the character of legitimate war than that of rebellion, and that the people of Oude should rather be regarded with indulgent consideration than made the objects of a penalty extending in extent and in severity almost any which has been recorded in history as inflicted upon a subdued nation."

"15. Other conquerors, when they have succeeded in overcoming resistance, have excepted a few persons as still deserving of punishment, but have, with a generous policy, extended their clemency to the great body of the people."

"16. You have acted upon a different principle. You have reserved a few as deserving of special favour, and you have struck with what they will feel as the severest of punishment the mass of the inhabitants of the country."

"17. We cannot but think that the precedents from which you have departed will appear to have been conceived in a spirit of wisdom superior to that which appears in the precedent you have made."

"18. We desire that you will mitigate in practice the stringent severity of the decree of confiscation you have issued against the landholders of Oude."

"19. We desire to see British authority in India rest upon the willing obedience of a contented people; there cannot be contentment where there is a general confiscation."

"20. Government cannot long be maintained by any force in a country where the whole people is rendered hostile by a sense of wrong; and if it were possible so to maintain it, it would not be a consummation to be desired."

A PORTRAIT OF YEH.

A new portrait of Governor Yeh, drawn by the pen of the "Times" correspondent, who accompanied the ex-governor to his place of captivity, has been published in the great journal. The writer tells us that in his personal appearance Yeh is a very stout and rather tall man, about five feet eleven, with the long thin Chinese mandarin beard and a remarkably receding forehead; a skull in which the "topologists call 'veneration' is much developed; a certain degree of baldness behind the ear, and a moderate development of the back hair. This tall is very paltry, very short, and very thin. The smallest poker in China has a better tail than his highest Mandarin.

His face is heavy. There is more chin than you usually see in a Chinaman—more jaw and jaw, indicative of will and obstinacy. The nose is long and flat. Seen in profile the nose is very remarkable and very ugly; in the front face this, the most sinistral expression of the countenance, is mitigated. The eye—that round slit Mongolian eye—is the most expressive feature of the man who is sitting opposite to me, and looking rather suspiciously at me as I am now writing. In his ordinary mood there is only a look of shrewdness and cunning in this, the only mobile feature of his face; but I have seen him in the turning moments of his life, when those eyelids were darted with terror and with fury. He has a large protruding mouth, thick lips, and very black teeth, for, as he remarks, "It never has been the custom of his family to use a toothbrush."

There is strong will, there is dogmatic perseverance, there is invulnerable resistance, but there is no active courage in that iron, nor in that heart. When Captain Key seized him his vast carcass shook with terror, and he completely lost all presence of mind. A man who had sent so many thousands to their great account might be expected to meet his own fate with dignity. Yeh was not equal to this. He shook, he made gestures of submission, he denied his identity, he would have been had not Captain Key held him up. In the presence of the Admirals his night was ill-concealed by an assumption of ignorance. When Captain Hall took him on board the *Infatigable*, he trembled violently as he went up the ladder, and when on board he eagerly inquired whether he was to be put to death. As soon as he had ascertained that it was not our custom to kill our prisoners he seemed quite contented. As soon as he became composed on board the *Infatigable*, he took up those childish tricks which have sometimes embarrassed our diplomats by their simple impudence. He had come off to the ship solely to see Lord Elgin, and wondered he had not kept his appointment. He had determined not to wait for him much longer. He renewed his autograph when Sir John Bowring, with doubtful taste, asked him for it. Because, he said, it was impossible to write an indifferent sentence in Chinese—every word can be distorted to some hidden meaning. The Chinese Minister evidently believed that we considered him still as a person from whom a treaty might be obtained, and he was prepared to make a good diplomatic fight. But when he found that Lord Elgin took no notice of him, unless he sent curt messages inquiring after his personal comfort,—when he saw that, while treating him with all respect, and doing all he could for his convenience, Captain Brooker paid no attention to where he sat, or what he wore, or how he demeaned himself,—when he discovered that no one wished to make him sign any treaty, or to question him upon topics which he declined to enter upon,—he gradually relaxed, and before we left Hong Kong he had recognised his true position, and he gave up playing the high mandarin. He conversed with affability upon indifferent subjects, preferred a request for a daily ration of six pounds of fresh pork, presented a portion of his stock of oranges to the Ward-room mess, and begged to be allowed to send for a full supply of Chinese tobacco. Up to this time the only occasions upon which he manifested any vivacity were upon discussions as to his food.

Yeh is in his private life a very respectable Chinaman. He is entirely free from all suspicion of those detestable habits common to his countrymen, and for which even the virtuous Keying was but too notorious. He smokes no opium; his ordinary drink is only warm tea; he uses samshu only as a medicine. He has sent his only wife, under the protection of his father, to his native village. He spoke of his concubines; but, as I could not tell how far it might be wrong in his eyes to show curiosity on this topic, I did not learn their number or destination. He eats twice a day of four or five succulent dishes, and drinks nothing while eating. His devotions consist of sitting in the posture of a Chinese idol, his legs crossed, and his face to the east. He remains in an abstract state for about ten minutes, and the act of devotion is accomplished. When he first came on board he retired into this contemplative state several times a day. He afterwards became much more nimble, and once a day appeared to suffice him.

In the practice of that virtue which we Westerners rank next to godliness Yeh is certainly not conspicuous. He spits, he smokes, he blows his nose with his fingers. His daily ablutions consist of a slight rubbing of the face with a towel moistened in hot water. He has a horror of fresh air, and while in Chinese waters never willingly went on deck. He wears thickly padded stockings, the long, blue-sleeved, quilted robe, and blue pantaloons tied at the ankle, common to all Chinamen. He boasts that he has worn his outer coat for ten years, and its appearance justifies his assertion; it is stiff with grease. When we drew near to Singapore, within one degree of the line, the heat became frightful. His practice then was, while steaming from libations of hot tea, to strip off his coat and sit in his long yellow grass cloth shirt, wet and discoloured—a most disgusting object.

Once, after six weeks' confinement, he gravely intimated his intention of taking a bath; and he was eagerly reminded of what he had been more than once informed, and that there was a most comfortable bathroom on deck, quite at his daily service. That was not at all Yeh's idea of a bath. The cabin was given up to him and his domestics, and a small pan of boiling water. We all hoped that he had cleansed himself, but when we saw him again he was wearing his old greasy, unwashed jacket. Considerable alarm was at one time entertained as to whether the great man did not encourage a class of parasites not usually tolerated by great men. Mr. Alabaster saw to his horror an unknown but most suspicious insect crawling within the sacred precincts of the captain's cabin. It was not by the Mandarin's agency that the action of Peter Pindar's great epic was re-enacted on board the *Infatigable*. After Yeh had manifested his acquaintance with entomology, his servants were compelled to wash, and some strong hints were thrown out to their master. The washing was grumbled at as a tyranny, and the hints were thrown away; so nothing was left but to hope almost against hope that the Mandarin himself is free from vermin, and to continue to scrub the attendants. The southern Chinese are for the most part of cleanly habits, but the northerners are dirty. Yeh is from Hupeh, which is one of the five northern provinces.

Yeh sleeps in a recess in the captain's cabin, which he prefers to a separate sleeping berth. He goes to bed about eight o'clock, and while we are reading or writing, or playing chess, he sleeps the sleep of infancy—an unbroken slumber, apparently undisturbed by visions of widowed women or wailing orphans. This man-killer, after slaying his landed thousand human beings, enjoys sweeter sleep than an innocent London alderman after a turtle dinner. But, although our great Mandarin is at peace with his own Chinese conscience, he has an evident horror of his living countrymen. He has 'lost face' with them, and the greatest fear he has is the being made an exhibition to a Chinese rabble. We were malicious enough to ask whether he would like to go to the Hong Kong Races? He answered, just as the father of a serious family might answer, that it never had been the custom of his family to go to races.

On Monday, the 23rd of February, the *Infatigable* steamed out of Hong Kong harbour, and Yeh might, if he had pleased, have taken his last look for some time of the shores of his native land. If he felt any of the bitterness of exile he was successful in concealing it, for he was entirely occupied in smoking his pipe and settling himself comfortably. A few minutes after and we had rounded the green island, and the steamer danced to the piping of the strong north-west monsoon. I was on deck watching the familiar objects of the harbour as they receded, when sounds came through the cabin skylight like the strains and

groans of Etna. The pipe and the little cakes, flavoured potently with pork fat, even the frequent thimblefuls of samshu, had been unavailing to fortify the great stomach of the great Mandarin. His servants had crept into corners to die. Poor Captain Brooker's cabin was in an awful state. For three days this condition of things continued. Judging from the sounds, the Viceroy might be throwing up his two provinces of Quansu and Quamtang. It must be admitted, however, that he struggled manfully with his malady.

As he recovered from his sickness he grew more communicative and conversational than he had ever been before. As we left Singapore harbour he looked like a man who had had a load removed from his mind. I believe his feeling was that he had got away for a time from his own countrymen, and was no longer in danger of meeting the people in whose eyes he had 'lost face.'

On the tenth day of the voyage the *Infatigable* steamed up the muddy Hooghly; but no persuasion could induce Yeh to interest himself in the novel scene about him. He refused to go on deck; he declined to look out of the cabin windows; but "at last he was left quite alone, and—Oh, Victory!—one of the shipboys comes up and tells us that 'the governor' has climbed up and is peering through the stern-ports. Let him peep in peace. If he were not a great lump of mean artifice, he would come on deck like a man, and admire the glories of this great city."

So soon as the *Infatigable* dropped her anchor, Major Herbert, to whose care Yeh had been assigned, came on board with a retinue of red-robed Hindoes, and soon after Yeh landed. He is located for the present in Fort William, but a convenient house is being furnished for him some little way out of Calcutta.

BURNING OF A STEAMBOAT ON THE MISSISSIPPI.

Three steamboats Ocean Spray and Keokuk were burned about five miles above St. Louis, on the 22nd ult., and twenty of the passengers of the former vessel lost their lives. The Ocean Spray, at the time she took fire, was running with the Hannibal City, and the accident seems to have been caused through the grossest misconduct. The following statement of one of the passengers was copied from the St. Louis "Democrat":—

"Mr. Deniston says that when the Ocean Spray was within about a mile of where she took fire, he saw the Hannibal City gaining on her, and the command was given to put turpentine in the furnaces. They first threw in resin. Some of the men went down into the hold and brought up a barrel of turpentine, split the head of the barrel, and then, under orders of the mate, ladled the fluid over the coal that was lying by. The barrel at this time was standing not more than six feet from the furnace doors. After the coals were sprinkled, sticks of wood were taken up and their ends plunged into the barrel, and then laid down between the barrel and furnace. One of the firemen, in pulling out his rake, jerked a live coal, as is supposed, on the wood, when it was immediately ignited and blazed furiously.

"The mate, seeing that the men ordered them to throw water on the fire. The water soon drove the flames to the barrel, which was soon all ablaze. The mate grew furious, and ordered the men to cast the barrel overboard. In attempting to do this the barrel was upset, and the burning fluid spurted all over the deck, and poured in fiery torrents into the hold. At this the cry of 'Fire' was raised, and the alarm became general. Mr. Deniston made a dash for the stairway through the flames. Somehow he reached it, but not without having his hair and eyebrows 'pretty badly singed.' Here, at the forward deck, he found a crowd of men all waiting for the boat to strike shore. He jumped, and landed safely. While on the shore, he saw the women, with their children rushing over the top of the boat, some on the hurricane roof, and all screaming for help. He saw one mother bring three children to the edge of the hurricane roof, the oldest being probably about ten years old. She first caught the youngest in her arms, and gave it a desperate fling. It struck the shore with great violence, and must have been seriously injured. The second child she could not throw so far, and it fell in the water, where its little hands, paddling above the surface, arrested the attention of a gentleman, who reached forward and saved it. The third child, being so heavy, fell farther from the shore, would probably have been drowned but for some brave man who plunged in, and brought the child to the shore. The mother afterwards leaped into the water, and was rescued.

"Some four or five women were found clinging to another woman who was holding on to the ladder.

"Mr. Deniston thinks there cannot have been less than twenty lives lost. He thinks there were some sixty or seventy passengers in all, and a good many of these deck passengers."

DISASTERS AT SEA.

THE African mail steamship Candace was on her homeward passage from the west coast of Africa, having on board, in addition to the mails and crew, between thirty and forty passengers, when, on Tuesday, the 4th inst., she came into collision with the barque Ida Elizabeth, bound from Capetown to Batavia, and almost immediately foundered. Captain Rolt, the master of the steamer, two passengers, and four of the crew, were drowned; but the remaining portion of those on board, between fifty and sixty in number, were taken on board the Ida Elizabeth and went on with her.

The Egyptian steamer Suex was bet on the rocks near Jaffa, twenty-nine persons, including the captain (a Frenchman), three English engineers, a Frenchman, and the Secretary of the company to which the vessel belonged, being drowned. Three Englishmen—William Robinson, of Hull; Thomas Davis, of Liverpool; and John Pearson, of Whitby; Joseph Zammit, of Malta; and Alexander Aristarous, of Corfu; and a number of Arabs and Turks, were with difficulty saved; but all were nearly naked, and in a dreadful state of exhaustion. The English subjects were taken under the protection of the Consul.

IRELAND.

LIIMERICK ELECTION.—There are three candidates in the field for Limerick, in the room of Major Gavin, who has just been unseated on petition. They are Mr. John Ball, the defeated candidate at the last election; Mr. James Spraight, a popular local magistrate; and Mr. Synon, a barrister, whose brother is one of the Roman Catholic clergy of the city. Mr. Spraight is believed to have the best chance, being likely to get the support of Major Gavin's friends, and Mr. Ball having very much declined in popularity since the last election. Mr. Spraight is a Liberal.

PUBLIC WORKS IN IRELAND.—The amount issued by the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland to the 31st of March last is £3,271,920, out of £3,654,298 authorised to be issued, leaving £382,377 still to be issued.

EXECUTION AT GALWAY.—Patrick Layden, sentenced to death for the murder of his wife, was hanged at Galway on Tuesday. Our readers will remember that he was led to murder the woman in consequence of her having, while a single woman, preferred against him a charge of abusing her. To avoid the probable consequences he married the woman; but he never lived with her, and was often heard to threaten her for having "swore a lie" against him. At length he decoyed her to a place near the seashore, where he strangled her and buried her body in the sand, where it was soon afterwards discovered. On the gallows he confessed the murder, but declared the charge made against him by the woman was false.

SCOTLAND.

A SCOTCH SYNOD ON THE ORGAN QUESTION.—A lengthened debate took place in the Synod last week, in which numerous reverend doctors and others were heard on both sides, and various motions were made—one motion denouncing the organ as a "sin forbidden;" another re-affirming the decision of 1856, and declaring the veto applicable to all meetings for worship; and another to the effect that in the matter the Synod should interfere neither by way of recommendation nor prohibition. The Synod, consisting of about 1,000 members, being a clerical and lay representative of each congregation, took the vote as usual, not by roll-call, but by the more primitive mode of show of hands. Comparatively few hands were held up for the extreme and denunciatory view of the question, but on the vote between toleration and prohibition about three-fourths of the house voted for the latter course, thereby ratifying their former decision against the threatened innovation. The debate, however, made it pretty evident that, among a large number of the reverend members of the Synod, the mature views of their forefathers on this and kindred questions were relaxing in favour of more tolerant and probably more aesthetic sympathies. Among the Scotch Independents the organ has lately in some congregations obtained a footing, there being no superior or synodical courts in that body to check their freedom in the matter.

ATTEMPTED MURDER.—Mr. Wallace, Manager of the Clackmannan Coal Company, resides near the offices of the Company in a house surrounded by a high wall. A little after twelve o'clock of the night between Thursday and Friday, the contents of a gun were fired in at the window of this gentleman's room. The missiles with which the gun was charged were of the most costly order, being cut pieces of lead, about a hundred in number. The coat and other wearing apparel of Mr. J. Wallace, which were hanging in the room, were riddled, but he himself was absent from home.

THE PROVINCES.

CONVICTION OF TWO BARONETS UNDER THE GAME ACT.—Sir John Lister Kaye, Bart., Sir Charles Henry Hobson, Bart., and Mr. William H. Fryer, solicitor, were summoned before the county magistrates at Wymondham, for killing thirty-eight pheasants out of season at Lytchet Matravers, Dorsetshire. It appeared that on the 2nd, 3rd, and 5th of February last, the party were out shooting together, when a number of pheasants were killed. The chief witness was the person who had been employed as gamekeeper on the estate, and he had written a letter to Sir John Kaye, stating that he had been offered £20 to lay the information, which he now acknowledged to be false. It was also stated on the part of the defence that he had counselled the killing of the pheasants, on the ground that there were too many hens left by the gentleman who had the shooting up to the 1st of February. Sir John Kaye was convicted of killing fifteen, Sir Charles Hobson four, and Mr. Fryer ten, the penalty being one pound for each hen, with all reasonable costs.

POPISH RIOT AT WALSALL.—A person styling himself Baron de Camin, who during the previous week had delivered two lectures on Popery, attempted to deliver another lecture on the same subject in the Guildhall Assembly-room, Walsall; but scarcely had he commenced when a mob of Irish, who had assembled round the hall, forced open the outer door and rushed upstairs. The Baron, who was taking the money, gave the alarm, and some parties succeeded in closing and barricading an inner door. Meanwhile the Baron and his lady made their escape by a private entrance, which communicates with the Dragon Hotel. So soon as the Baron had made his exit, a party inside, evidently an accomplice of those outside, gave a signal, and immediately the assailants went round to the front of the hotel, and wreaked their vengeance upon the boards on which his bill had been exhibited. The police were called out, but it was not till Father Lovi, a Catholic priest, addressed the mob (about ten o'clock), that the streets could be cleared. With the exception of the damage to the property no injury was done; but had the Baron been found, the result would have been very different.

MURDER OF A GAMEKEEPER.—Early on Sunday morning, three men, well known as poachers, named Glenn, Morley, and Colcott, called at the house of Mr. Newbold, farmer, of Ryton, near Coventry, and stated that they had found the dead body of a man on the high road. Mr. Newbold went to the spot, and found that the body was that of a gamekeeper named Owen, in the service of Mr. Beech, of Brandon. He had received a gun-shot wound in the neck, and had evidently fallen without a struggle, as his right-hand was in the pocket of his shooting-jacket. The three men were afterwards taken into custody, as were two others named Kingrow and Kimberley, who were known to have been near the spot at the time the murder is supposed to have been committed. Kingrow admitted this, and said he heard a gun go off a little before five o'clock that morning.

ATTACKING HEAD-QUARTERS.—The crusade against church-rates has reached the archiepiscopal city of York. In the parish of St. Crux, a rate of three half-pence in the pound was proposed, but an amendment was moved that the vestry should adjourn for six months. This proposition was lost, and a poll was demanded; but, through some misunderstanding, it did not come off. In the united parishes of Holy Trinity, Goodramgate, and St. John Delpike, a rate of 2d. in the pound was proposed, but was lost on a show of hands by 21 to 19.

DISCOVERY OF A ROMAN FORD.—Last week, during the progress of the works for the improvement of Upper Witham, the excavators laid bare the Roman ford on the Foss Road from Lincoln to Newark. It is eight chains south of the Bridge Bridge. The floor or bed was composed of stone, gravel, and concrete, so very hard that, although only twenty yards long (the width of the river) and thirty feet in breadth, the men were engaged two days before they lowered the bed eighteen inches. Several wood bridges appear to have been erected over the Witham at different periods near the present bridge, and between it and the ford mentioned above a number of piles were discovered in the excavation. Some spear heads have also been found—two in beautiful preservation.

A HINT TO "COMMERCIALS."—On Sunday night a tired "commercial," as he represented himself to be, entered the Queen's Head, at Ashley-de-la-Zouch, and fell into social conversation with the only occupant of the commercial-room. During the evening, he exhibited circulars of "sardines," sold by "J. T. Morton, 104, Leadenhall Street," and said he was in the gas fitting and meter line. His luggage was coming on by the morning train, but he had ridden over from Burton with a friend, the "trap" breaking down near Ashby. He mentioned different towns in which he did business, and particularly stated circumstances relative to parties at Bath, Newport, Swansea, &c., whom the listener knew. Next morning having breakfasted, he "called on his customers," and on returning to the commercial-room, said he had one other call to make half an hour hence and then he should go to Leicester. The other "commercial" said he was going to Leicester also, by the same train. A walk was proposed; but the stranger said he must first go to the bank for a draft, suddenly asking the loan of three sovereigns, to make up a required sum he wanted to remit (as he had run out a little), which he would repay at Leicester. The unsuspecting victim lent the money; and the other went to the bank, where he made some pretended business inquiry, and then returned to the hotel. "Now" said he, "I'll just go and see my last customer, and, then, having finished him, will take a nice walk." He went, but never returned; on inquiries being shortly after made for him, it was ascertained that he had not called on a single "customer," except the one at the commercial-room with whom he had done the little money transaction, and he did not go off per train, which was eagerly watched for him; and his kind benefactor and his host were both "done."

LORD MACAULAY AT CAMBRIDGE.—The inauguration of Lord Macaulay, as Lord Steward of the borough, took place on Tuesday in the Town Hall, Cambridge. At a banquet given by the Mayor. After the formal proceedings, Lord Macaulay briefly returned thanks for the honour bestowed upon him. In the course of his few remarks, he said, "There was a time when I could have commanded a hearing in a much larger and even a more important assembly than this. That time, however, has now passed away; and I feel that if I would still do something for society, it will be best done in the quiet retirement of my own library. It is now five years since I last raised my voice in public, and it is not likely that, except upon some serious and important call of public duty, I shall ever so raise it again."

FATAL RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

The express-train from London to Manchester, which left Euston Square Station at 9 a.m. on Monday, proceeded safely on its journey until within about a mile of Nuneaton, where, on turning a sharpish curve in the line, the driver perceived a cow at a few yards distance before him. It was too late to pull up; the animal was dashed to pieces, and the train, with the exception of the engine and tender, was thrown off the line, the whole of the carriages being more or less smashed. Three gentlemen were killed on the spot, and five or six other gentlemen and a young lady (daughter of one of the deceased) were seriously injured. Strange to say neither the engine-driver nor stoker were hurt.

A passenger states that the animal which caused the accident was cut up into innumerable pieces; the head was to be seen on one part of the line, the legs scattered about a considerable distance off, and for yards along the line pieces of the hide and flesh might be seen. The accident occurred in a sharp curve in the line, so that here it is impossible to see for a great distance along the line. The engine and tender, which were not thrown off the line, became detached from the train of carriages through the breaking of the coupling chain. These were nearly all broken up. The last carriage was completely turned round, and several of the carriages which fell over the embankment were smashed. The head-guard's van was the first to break away, and this rolled over several times in its passage into a field below, where it received the shock of the succeeding first-class carriage, which fell upon it, and was completely broken up. The accident blocked up a portion of the line for some time, and carriages were brought from Nuneaton to convey the passengers who were uninjured, or had escaped with slight contusions, on their journey. Considering that there were nearly a hundred passengers in the train, it is wonderful that no more of them were killed. The deceased are Mr. Richmond, an aged gentleman (said to be an Independent minister), who was travelling from London with a daughter aged seventeen. Mr. Miller, a Presbyterian minister, who resides at Logan, Ireland; and Mr. Morgan, a young barrister, residing at Shrewsbury.

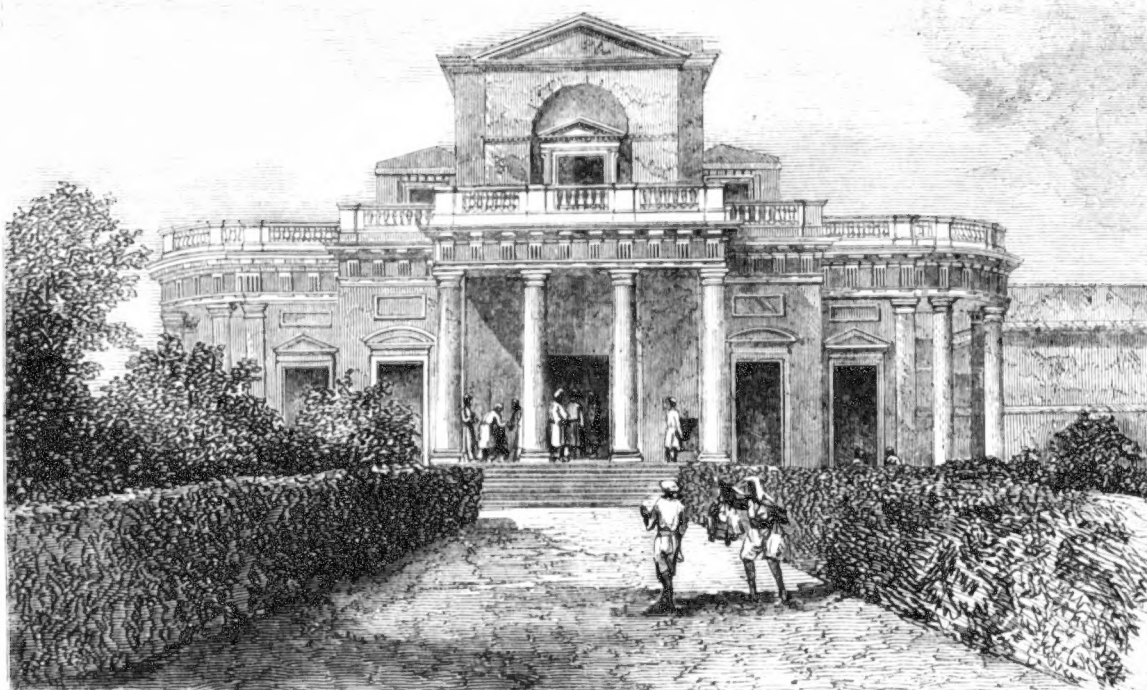
Of those who were injured one was the daughter of Mr. Richmond; she is slowly recovering. Mr. Ince, a barrister, was at last accounts in a very improving condition; no one else was very dangerously injured, though a Mr. Dallas had a rib broken.

An inquest has been opened on the bodies of the dead.

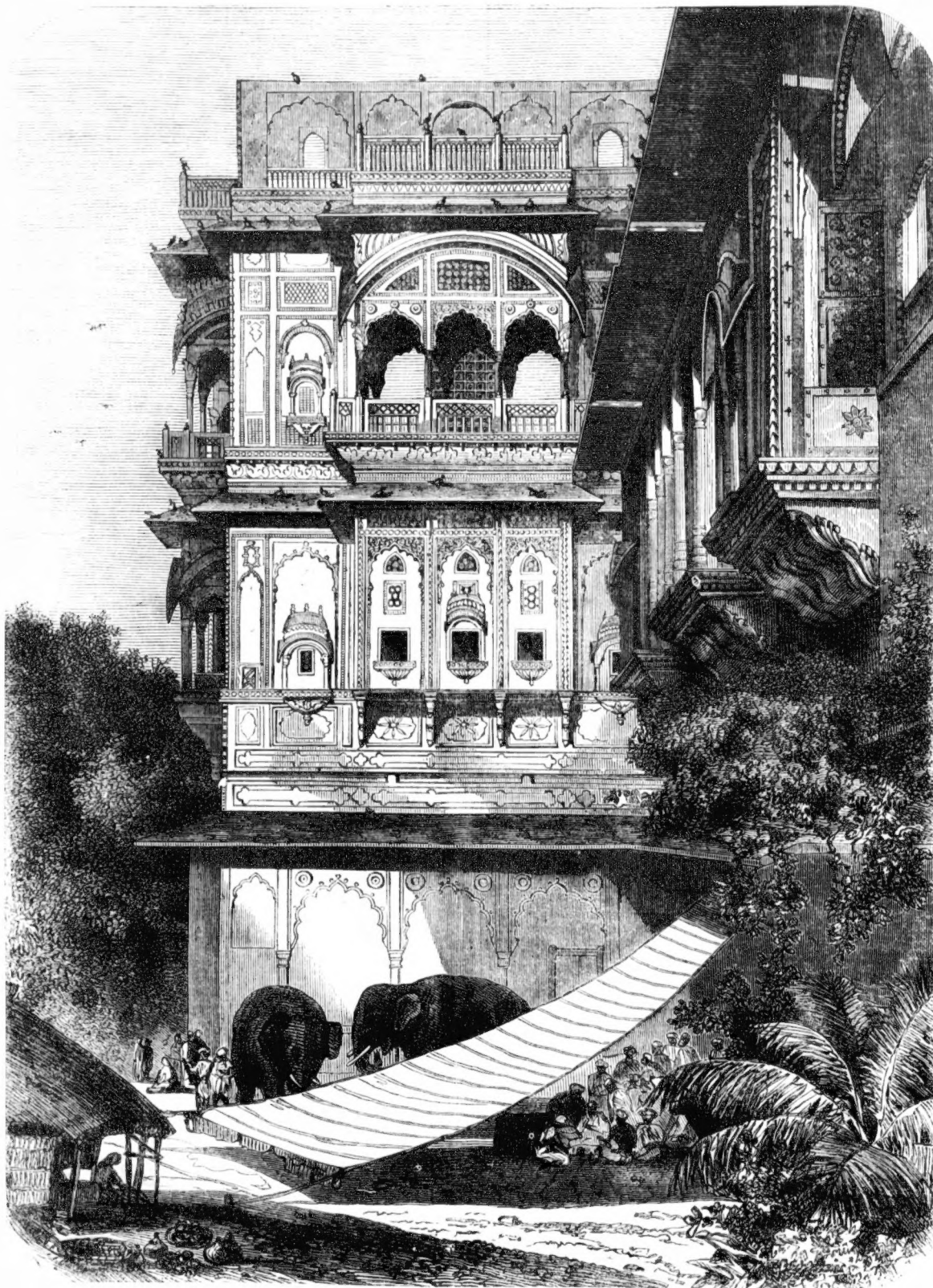
CAPTAIN SIMPSON'S HOUSE AT LUCKNOW.

THE Darogah of the Imambarra was also photographer to the King of Oude; and so perseveringly did he practise the art, that there was scarcely a gentleman or lady in Lucknow whose likeness he had not taken. There was no great harm in that; but it is said that the Darogah also took views of the Residency, and of the entrenchments and batteries erected for its defence; and these fell into the hands of the enemy.

We are indebted to the Darogah's skill for the illustration on the following page. It represents the residence of Captain Simpson, one of the Deputy Commissioners of Lucknow before the siege. His house was one of the many that belonged to the ex-King, and which came into our possession when Oude was annexed to the British territory in India.



CAPTAIN SIMPSON'S HOUSE AT LUCKNOW.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.)



HOUSE OF A RICH BANKER AT ADJIMIR.

A RICH BANKER'S HOUSE AT ADJIMIR.

Among the cities of India, whose origin is lost in the mists of antiquity, Adjimír, in the vicinity of Benares, holds a prominent place. Built in the midst of a vast and fertile plain, and on the banks of a beautiful lake, it was at one time the capital of a rich and powerful state, and all seemed to conspire to enhance its prosperity and grandeur. Even now, though the province of which it is the chief city has fallen into dissolution and decay, Adjimír yet retains numerous traces of its ancient splendour. The "House of a rich banker," which we this week engrave, is a curious specimen of the by-gone magnificence of Adjimír. It would be difficult to find a more imposing combination of richness and elegance than is found in the façade and its ornaments. The banker's house appears to have been built during the latter part of the last century, but on a model of a far remoter date. The construction is in that strange Oriental composite style, the *bizarre* yet graceful mixture of the Hindoo with the Arabic architectural manner which prevails throughout Bengal. Thus the oriel windows, the crenelated eaves, the trellised and arabesque panel-work, belong essentially to Arabic art, while the pagoda-like roofs which surmount the different storeys are purely Hindoo or rather Bhuddist; for architecture and religion are found in intimate alliance in Paganism as in Christianity; and the curved and projecting roofs find their apotheosis in the bell-decorated many-storied pagodas of China.

The separate roofs, or rather bulks, of the mansion whose exterior we are endeavouring to describe, are the resort of the sacred pigeons, vast numbers of which interesting birds scatter their varied plumage over the housetops and streets of Adjimír, and are treated with the greatest respect and veneration by the public. Thousands of pigeons are to be found in all the towns of the Rajpootana, imparting to them a most remarkable and characteristic appearance, and everywhere the birds are treated with the same superstitious respect. It is difficult, without minute inquiry, to discover the germ whence sprang among the Brahmins, the Mahometans, or the Buddhists of India the tradition which has placed under the ægis of religion the pretty birds which we utilitarians of the West were in the habit, prior to the establishment of electric telegraphs, of employing as message carriers; which we are unsentimental enough to eat, and infinitely relish, stewed; and which we esteem as most succulent dainties when baked in a pie dish with half a pound of juicy steak beneath, some hard boiled eggs between, a dozen native oysters on the top, and a flaky crust (made by the delicate hand of our Angelina) surmounting all; which we are idle enough to breed with reference to some silly phase of the "fancy," and cruel enough to shoot at with guns from "traps." Pigeons are equally sacred among the Russians. They are terrible annoyances to the rapid droschky drivers of St. Petersburg and Moscow, flying as they do with jaunty indifference between the legs of the skittish horses. Their great resort in the capital is the roof of the Kasan Church, where they literally swarm. In the provincial towns they are as numerous; and an orthodox Russian would as soon think of eating a pigeon, as an English agriculturist would dream of killing a robin-red-breast; but the semi-hothouse civilisation of Petersburg afford some ground for dark rumours that we have heard to the effect that *compote de pigeons* is a dish not wholly unknown at Dominique's restaurant on the Nevski.

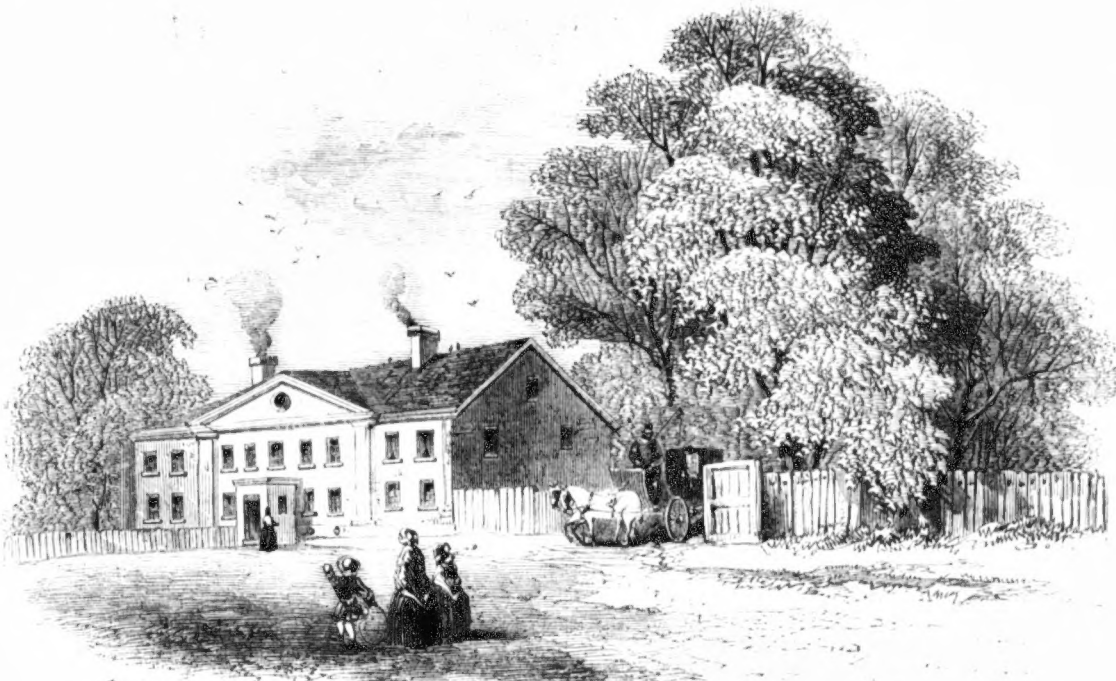
It is a long flight even for a carrier pigeon from the Nova and the Neva to the Ganges and the Jumna; yet there are stranger flights, stranger antitheses of time, and space, and style, and manner, to be found in this same Empire of Ind. The mansion of the Hindoo Shroff—with its arabesques, its gilded lattices, its strange grotesque ornaments, its multi-coloured cornices, its striped verandahs, its shady court-yards with tessellated pavements and purling fountains in the midst, its cool dark rooms, where on rich carpets or sweet-smelling mats the dark-eyed beauties of the zenana sit pulling the fragrant herb to the music of the hookahs' bubbling sound—their plump dusky forms shrouded in airy muslins, their little bare feet peeping from jewelled bangles; the lazy, splendid, effeminate Oriental house, with its hosts of white-clad servants, its elephants at the gate, and its huge savage vegetation in topes around—may have for very next neighbour a white-washed barrack, where her Majesty's fighting 33rd are living in an atmosphere of pipe-clay and helldoll, or a stern, frigid stone building, in the modernised semblance of a Greek temple, and which may be the Joint-stock Bank of Bengal, with a staff of European clerks and a library of ledgers bound in red and green vellum. The great Eastern mystery, the mighty Triangle of the Orient, is full of anachronisms, inconsistencies, paradoxes, baffling contrasts, such as these. Who is to reconcile them, and when will they be recognised?

GENERAL INGLIS.

The accompanying sketch represents the house in which General Inglis was born, and which was for many years the residence of his father and family. The General is the second son of the late John Inglis, Bishop of Nova Scotia. He was educated at the Collegiate School at Windsor (Nova Scotia), and completed his education at the University in the same place. In 1833, he entered the army as ensign in the 32nd Regiment, to the head of which he gradually rose. In the Canadian rebellion of 1837-38, he first saw active service. From 1847 to 1849, he was engaged in the Punjab campaign, was present at the siege and capture of Multan, and passed through danger in other battles and sieges, unharmed, as at Lucknow.

A correspondent of a Nova Scotia journal gives us some account of General Inglis's earlier days. Our anecdotalist says:—"I can remember him in his nurse's arms, in the year 1814, which I think was the year of his birth. I rather think his infancy was not particularly distinguished by indications of his future career, except, it may be, by his pugilistic encounters with his nurse. I next noticed him advanced to the dignity of jacket and trousers, and making his first equestrian effort, seated on the back of an old white steed, then a sojourner in his father's stables, on which, held one side by the groom, he was walked every morning to the National School. This was somewhere about his sixth year. For a few years after this, he was remembered by many of our citizens as a fair-haired, rosy-checked boy, with a laughing roguish eye, twinkling with that spirit of fun and frolic which he loved so well; no longer in leading strings, but firmly seated in his saddle, and already showing that easy graceful horsemanship for which he was remarkable as he grew up, and which no doubt he often exhibited since on blood-stained fields. A little later than this we find him at the Collegiate Academy, Windsor, where he remained some six or seven years, and demeaned himself pretty much as other high-spirited lads—not particularly fond of Latin and Greek, nor of the discipline and not very luxurious fare of the school. Both, however, may have had their uses in his subsequent career. He entered the college in the year 1831, but he only remained there a short time. I know little of his short career at the university, but floating rumours have reached us at times of wondrous things done in those days—such as 'preserves' in students' closets no longer preserved, horses' tails vanishing in a night, or their bodies, erewhile black as a coal, becoming white as quickly by the wand of some young magician, whom deponent mentioneth not, so that when the 'old Doctor' called for his ebony steed, his faithful Pat reported his 'hair turned white in a single night, as men's have done from sudden fears,' so as to make his identity a puzzle.

The next time I recollect Inglis, was when in the house of a clergyman in the country, with whom his father placed him in 1832. There he endeared himself to all the family, and was a favourite with every one who knew him. He was tractable and attentive to his studies, which were regulated with reference to his prospective profession. Caesar's 'Commentaries,' with mathematics and geography, occupied his time, still leaving, however, leisure for the gun and the saddle, and the active sports in which he delighted. He was ever polite, cheerful, manly, and considerate, and he will always be kindly remembered by those in any places that knew him in the days when he was a stranger both to care and fame. Henceforth the little room he occupied in the north-west corner of that country dwelling, and which long went by the name of 'John's room,' may claim some classic distinction over its neighbours, as be-



BIRTH-PLACE OF GENERAL INGLIS AT HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA.

longing to one whose deeds in another far distant 'Residency' will never be forgotten. Perhaps even *there*, with all the load of responsibility that pressed upon his mind, 'busy thought' has sometimes wandered back to that quiet nook, as well as to the other scenes of 'his own native land.'

"I believe he entered the army soon after this, and I did not see him again until 1840, when he came out from England, with his father and family, in the first of the Cunard steamers. In the interval, he had served in Canada in the rebellion of 1837-38, where he distinguished himself, and 'smelt powder' for the first time. I think he was in Capt. Markham's Company (afterward General Markham), who was severely wounded, while Inglis escaped unhurt, as, strange to say, he has done through all his dangers and exposures in after years. He then gave me a modest but graphic account of that his first essay in actual warfare. He was next heard of in the midst of those conflicts in India, in 1847-49, in which he acquitted himself nobly, as is matter of public record. I had not the pleasure of seeing his honest face again until October, 1850, when I met with him for a brief space, on the sandy plains of Aylesford, his paternal seat, where he was engaged in arranging for the removal of the family to England, in consequence of the illness of his Right Reverend Father, who died before that month was out. He did not then dream of the space he now occupies in the world's eye, nor of the proud position he was destined to occupy in the annals of the great, the noble, and the brave. Little did any of us, who knew 'John Inglis' from his early boyhood, suppose that he would one day receive the

thanks of the Imperial Parliament of the greatest country under the sun, the highest honour that any man can attain. Long may he live to enjoy the honours that have been so justly bestowed upon him."

Besides the honours which have been bestowed upon General Inglis in England, the people of his native province have voted him a sword, with an address which, after ascribing due credit to his associates in arms, concluded in the following words:—"Accept, sir, the thanks and congratulations of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly of Nova Scotia, and may you long enjoy the honours you have nobly won. Receive, also, as a token of the esteem of your fellow-countrymen, a sword, which will be presented to you as soon as it can be prepared. In peace it may recall to you the consciousness that the sympathies of your native land attend you."

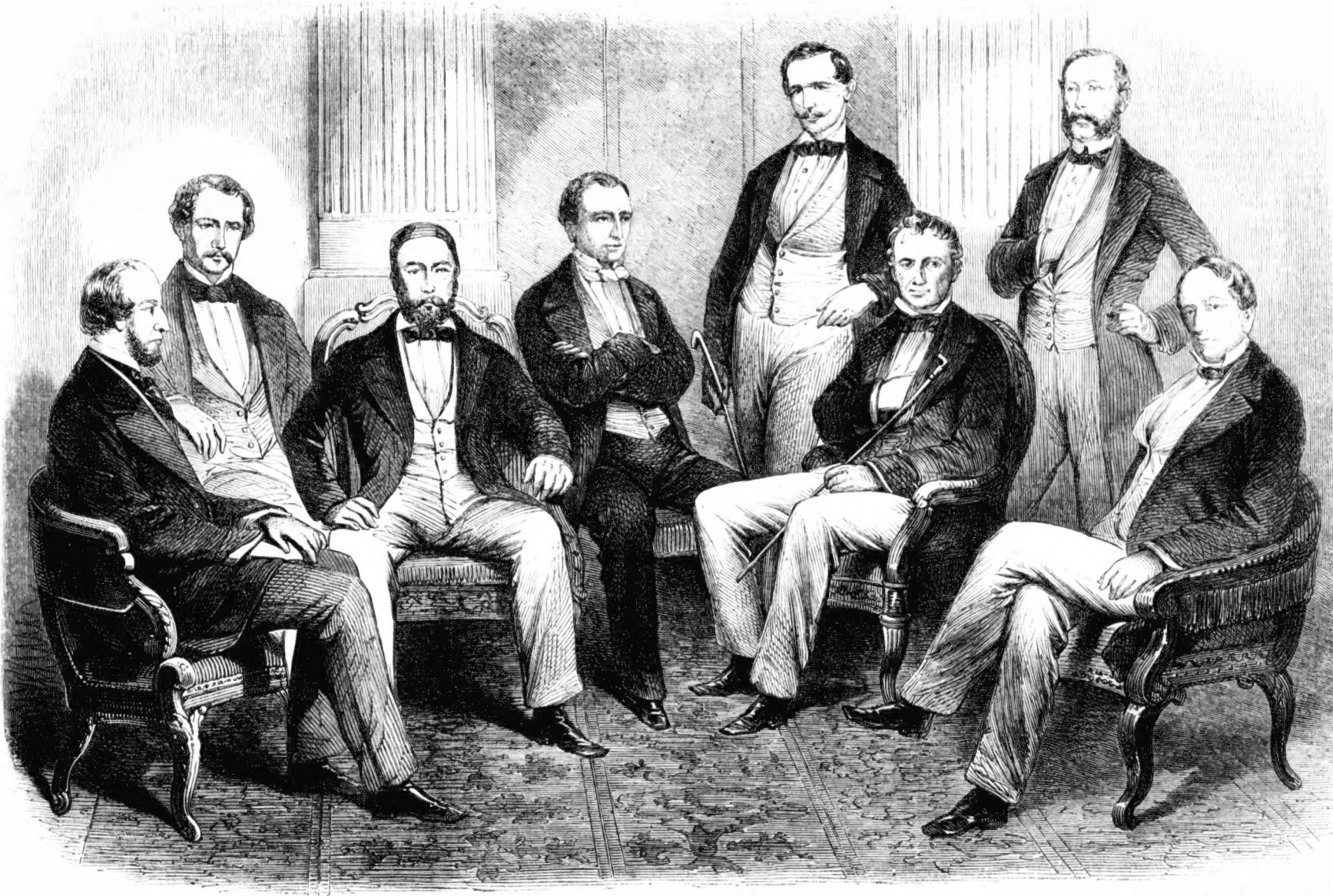
NEW EQUIPMENT FOR THE WEST INDIA REGIMENTS.

ALL those who are really interested in the efficiency of the British army will be glad to learn that a step has at length been taken in advance in the equipment of our troops, though for the nonce it has only been applied to the negro soldiers in the West India regiments, and the sphere of whose operations it is in contemplation to enlarge, by sending them for service in India, where, from their peculiar physical organisation, they will doubtless be able to get through much hard work almost impossible of accomplishment to European sol-



PRIVATE OF WEST INDIA REGIMENT IN THE NEW ZOUAVE COSTUME.

diers, even the most acclimatised. Those who have seen a negro stretched out before a kitchen fire, and amicably roasting his woolly pate before the genial blaze, will at least feel certain that the heat of Bengal will not affect our sable warriors. The new uniform of the West India soldier is, as will be seen in the accompanying engraving, accurately modelled upon the celebrated "Zouave" pattern. Like the Zouave, he wears the fez and tassel, the open swinging jacket, the light collarless vest, the cartouche-box in front, and the baggy and capacious nether garments. The only point of departure from the world-famous costume of the eccentric skirmishers of our allies is that the negro Zouave's legs are bare, and that his feet are protected, not by shoes and gaiters, but by neat and picturesque-looking sandals. We congratulate our military authorities for this slight instalment of abandonment of the padding, pipeclay, leathern stocks, clumsy shadles, tight trousers, knapsack-straps, and other monstrosities, which at present debilitate and cripple our soldiers.

HERR V. KATTE, PRUSSIA.
SIR H. L. BULWER, ENGLAND.

SEIET EFFENDI, TURKEY.

HERR V. BASSILI, RUSSIA.

BARON PENSI, SARDINIA.

BARON V. RICHTHOFEN, PRUSSIA.

BARON TALLEYRANDE-PERIGORDY, FRANCE.

BARON LIEHMANN VON FALMRODE, AUSTRIA.

MEMBERS OF THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES COMMISSION.

THE DANUBIAN COMMISSIONERS.

THE future of the Danubian Principalities has again become a "momentous question." On account of it we went to war with Russia; and now representatives from all the important Powers in Europe are about to meet to quarrel anew over the unhappy subject. Whether Moldavia and Wallachia are to becomenated under an independent government, is the question; whether this course, while it satisfied the natural desires of the people of the Principalities, would not end in their government by Russian nominees, and strengthen the hands of the Czar at the Sultan's expense: that is the difficulty. Of course we have a party who take their ground upon the right of the people of the Principalities to free institutions, and another who insist that the Provinces are the property of Turkey, and that she cannot be deprived of her rights in them in order to make experiments with new forms of government. But these questions, important as they are, have little intrinsic weight; the matter is still an European one, and the relations of Russia to the East the first consideration. As for the Moldavian and Wallachian populations, nobody imagines, we suppose, that the "Powers" are particularly anxious for their political advancement; and the result of all the discussion will be that they will be allowed just so good or so bad a government as will accord with what is called "the peace of Europe."

Appropos of the Conferences, we present our readers with portraits of the Danubian Commissioners—gentlemen who were delegated by the various Powers to make certain inquiries, and to arrange the details of certain matters regarding the new frontier line, &c., broadly settled at the late Conferences in Paris, held after the peace.

BANQUET TO THE DUKE OF MALAKHOFF.—A banquet was given by the members of the Army and Navy Club last week to the new French Ambassador. A large number of guests were present; and the chief speeches were those of the Marshal himself, Sir W. F. Williams (the chairman), Sir John Pakington, Major-General Yorke, Sir W. Codrington, and Colonel Daniell. The Duke of Malakoff, in acknowledging the toast of his health, said (speaking in French):—"It is with a feeling of brotherly pleasure that I find myself sitting among you. It gives me deep satisfaction to see your cordial anxiety to give me a welcome. As a soldier more than one among you know me; as Ambassador, my principles are invariable, and, as I have already had the opportunity of explaining them, it is not necessary to speak of them again here. But what I wish to tell you is, that I feel a pride in finding myself again in the midst of my companions in arms, and that I recall to memory our valiant standards, our glorious flags, the witnesses of your great efforts as well as ours, under the shadow of which we have conquered the peace of the world. Let us in future know how to maintain that peace, so productive to civilisation, and so fertile, so necessary for us and for you—that peace so indispensable for the welfare of all. I hope that peace will be durable, for it was cemented by generous blood—by blood shed side by side in succouring a faithful ally, but shed with equal and mutual eagerness. It is for us, soldiers and sailors, to remember this. It is for us to propose, without hesitation, an enthusiastic toast of lasting concord, and we who have joined our heroic efforts together for the advantage of all have the right to say to two great people, 'Let us know how to unite the two fleets and the two armies, and let our sentiments be mingled together in one common feeling.' I beg to propose 'The imperishable union of our fleets and armies.'" The evening passed off with the utmost enthusiasm.

THE DIVORCE COURT.—The judges in this Court for the first time this week, and settled several cases. At the rising of the Court on Tuesday, Lord Campbell said he could not refrain from expressing his satisfaction with the operation of the new Act. The Court had pronounced sentence of dissolution in eight cases, in all of which the petitioners had proved that they were clearly entitled to the remedy they sought. Although in some of those cases the petitioners would have been able to obtain a divorce under the old system by passing a bill through Parliament, yet in others they would have been deterred from that remedy by their poverty. It was satisfactory to think that rich and poor were now upon an equal footing, and that the same remedy was open to all who could establish their right to it.

STATISTICS OF THE RAGGED SCHOOL UNION.—This society held its annual meeting on Monday night in Exeter Hall, when the Secretary read the annual report, from which it appears that the number of Sunday-schools in the union is 134, containing 20,500 scholars; day-schools 98, containing 14,300 scholars; week evening schools 131, containing 8,630 scholars. The voluntary teachers number 2,359 and the paid teachers 328. There are nine shoe-black societies in various parts of London. Of these, the three most important—the red, yellow, and blue brigades—containing 190 boys, earned during the year £3,227, about 1s. a-day for each boy. 57 of the teachers had been formerly themselves ragged scholars. The penny banks had received £2,530, from 15,000 depositors. The entire receipts of the Union and of the local schools were £35,000.

ARTISTS' BENEVOLENT FUND.—The annual dinner in aid of the funds of this excellent institution was held at the Freemason's Tavern, on Saturday, under the presidency of Mr. Charles Dickens, who was supported by Sir C. Eastlake, President of the Royal Academy, and about 110 other gentlemen.

THE FIRE IN GILBERT STREET.—The coroner's jury on the persons who perished by the fire in Gilbert Street have given a verdict that the majority of the sufferers died from suffocation by mineral fumes and wood smoke, and that there was no evidence to show the origin of the fire. They added a long presentment, censuring Mr. Taylor's negligence in not having a proper watchman between the house and Mr. Calvert's premises; and recommending an improvement of the Building Act, the Common Lodging-house Act, and the Metropolitan Local Management Act, and that there be a better organisation of the fire brigade, fire escape services, and water supply.

MR. LAVARD ON INDIA.—Mr. A. H. Lavard delivered a lecture on India on Tuesday evening, at St. James's Hall. Viscount Bury, M.P., presided, and several other members of Parliament were present. The burden of Mr. Lavard's lecture was that the people of India were in open and unadmitted rebellion, in consequence of the injustice and tyranny of the British rule. Annexation and ill-treatment of the natives had brought all the mischief about; as for the garrisoned cartridges, they were merely the pretext of rebellion, and the Persian war was its opportunity.

THE NATIONAL EXPENDITURE.—The British Government expended, during the last five years, three hundred and sixty million pounds sterling. To supply this sum, the people were taxed through the Customs and Excise to the tune of two hundred million pounds sterling. The property-tax yielded sixty million pounds sterling, every farthing of which has been irrecoverably lost. During the same time, one hundred and fifty-four million pounds sterling were expended upon military establishments, that is, about seventy-six million pounds sterling more than in the corresponding preceding five years. Nearly the whole of this vast sum, excepting a small fraction, has been obtained from the people—the producers of wealth, the industrial and commercial class.

THE FIGHT AT WOOLWICH.—William Selles, aged twelve, and Henry John Hambrook, were charged at the Central Criminal Court with the manslaughter of Thomas Bolton. It will be enough to remind our readers that Bolton was killed while fighting with Selles, and that Hambrook was charged with having suggested the fatal blow. Both prisoners were found "Guilty," with a recommendation to mercy. The lad Selles was sentenced to a day's imprisonment, and Hambrook to three months, with hard labour.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, NO. 72.

MR. GLOVER.

In an article which we published three weeks ago under this head, we sketched the unfortunate career of Mr. Edward Auchmuty Glover, who, at the last general election, started for Beverley, was elected its representative in Parliament, unseated on petition alleging want of qualification, prosecuted for perjury by order of the House of Commons, and sentenced to imprisonment. Since the publication of this sketch we have received a communication from a relative of Mr. Glover on this subject, the substance of which we feel bound in justice to this unfortunate gentleman to lay before our readers. Mr. Glover, it appears from the communication, is not a mere adventurer, but a gentleman of an ancient and highly respectable Kentish family, tracing back to one John Glover, who bore the canopy as Baron of the Cinque Ports at the coronation of Henry VIII. He is also a Barrister-at-Law, Justice of the Peace for the county of Middlesex and city of Westminster, and F.G.S., F.S.A. And it is further stated that he is "an accomplished scholar, an eloquent speaker, and an elegant writer." With respect to his means and prospects, our correspondent tells us that his income "is never less than £1,500 a-year, derived from his own intellectual pursuits," that he has an estate in Ireland worth £6,000, mortgaged only for £1,400, and that he is heir to an estate valued at £17,000, and mortgaged for only £16,000. We have no time, space, or inclination to test or comment upon this statement. We leave it to make its own impression upon the minds of our readers—merely saying that we

always thought, and think still, that Mr. Glover was hardly dealt with.

PROPERTY QUALIFICATION DOOMED.

Appropos to the above, property qualification is doomed; nay, more, it has received its death-blow, from which there can be no recovery; and stranger still, the blow was given by a Conservative Ministry. What next? and next? Why, twenty years ago this property qualification was deemed by the Conservatives to be one of the bulwarks of the Constitution—a fence and safeguard of Church and State, and a buttress of the House; and an attack upon it was a *crimen teterini belli*, which always roused and closed the Conservative forces as with the sound of a trumpet calling to arms. If we mistake not, the abolition of qualification was one of the points of the dreadful Charter, which in times gone by was looked upon by all true Conservatives as

"A hideous monster of so foul a mien,
That to be hated needs but to be seen."

And even Whigs denounced it, and many Radicals, so-called, questioned whether such a measure was not "going too far." And lo! now a Conservative Government consents to it; and by an eminently Conservative Home Secretary and member of an English university, it is denounced, this old bulwark, amidst the cheers of the whole House, as a sham which ought to be got rid of. No! not entirely the whole House, for there was still one Conservative who had a word to say in its favour. Need we say, that this solitary defender is Mr. Bentinck. The Honourable Member for West Norfolk is still true to his colours—"Faithful 'mongst the faithless found," he still has the old stock arguments to advance; all have changed around him, but he is the same as ever. "Property qualification," said the Honourable Gentleman, "is intended to prevent the intrusion into the House of Commons of a class of men who, having no means, are liable to temptation; and he very much feared that if it were abolished, we should see in the House large numbers of these gentlemen who, having nothing to depend upon but the precarious earnings of their business or profession, would be tempted by the emoluments of office." Only a few years ago these Conservative utterances would have been received with rapturous cheers. But times are changed, and we are changed with them, and we have to record that they were now received only by derisive cheers and laughter, even by the Conservatives themselves. But who is this that rises to answer Mr. Bentinck? Surely it cannot be—and yet it is—our old, hearty, genuine Conservative friend, Mr. William Miles, member for East Somerset. We, all of us, remember Mr. Miles in the battle for Protection. He was one of its earnest supporters to the last, and has always been considered, not merely a Conservative, but the very impersonation of old Toryism. And it, twenty years ago, any one had predicted that, in the year of grace 1858, he would be heard in the House of Commons advocating one of the points of the Charter, what would have been his indignation! He would probably have said to the Prophet, "Is thy servant a dog, that he should do this thing?" To us who were lookers-on and listeners, and whose political reminiscences date back some two score years, this scene was amazing and amusing. We have heard O'Connell and Parnass O'Connor, and other eminent Radicals in the House; and we remember the days of Sir Francis Burt's imprisonment in the Tower, of Major Cartwright and Parnass O'Connor, but we never heard more radical sentiments uttered, either on the platform or in the House, than those which our old Tory friend, Mr. Miles, poured forth with such fervour and animation on that evening. Worthy old gentleman! was he conscious of what he was doing? It was in the year 1818, just forty years ago, when he came into Parliament, and ever since then he has been carefully guarding those ancient bulwarks of the Constitution which he now ruthlessly tears up and ridicules as so many shams. All his life he has preached Conservatism, and something more; and now, in his sixty-first year, he indignantly—or perhaps we ought rather to say, merrily, for his broad face was radiant with good humour when he did it—tears his formula to shreds, and scatters the pieces to the winds. Nor was the conduct of the Government less remarkable. This is not the first time that a bill for the abolition of property qualification has been brought before the House, but it has always been opposed by the ruling powers—whether Conservative or Liberal. Strange that a Conservative Government should be destined to inaugurate this great change.

CHAOS COME AGAIN.

We read in the history of the Jews of a time "when there was no king in Israel, but every man did what was right in his own eyes." And this is the state of the House of Commons at this moment. There is no king there, "but every man does what is right in his own eyes." There is one who "the likeness of a kingly crown has on," but he is no king. Every looker-on may see that Disraeli feels that he is not the leader of the House. He has been appointed its leader, inaugurated in regular constitutional form, and sits in the leader's place; but look at the bearing of the man. How different it is to that which marked him when he sat on the opposite side. How subdued is his tone—how conciliatory his language—how courteous—how suave! Where be his jibes now?—his gambols?—his flashes of merriment which used to set the House in a roar? He has risen in position, but sunk in spirits. He is in office, but not in power. But happily for him there is no leader of the Opposition! The Government party is weak for want of numbers—the Opposition is weak through divisions. Indeed, on the Opposition side chaos has come again, and we want a new creation. The *quid nunc* of the clubs and the lobby say that it is all of the quarrel between Lord John Russell and Lord Palmerston that this confusion reigns. Once reconcile these two Noble Lords, they say, and the chaotic elements would resolve themselves into order—the Derbyites would be dethroned—and the Whig golden age would again return. We don't believe it. The cause of the disorganisation is deeper than this quarrel. The quarrel or estrangement existed when Palmerston was in power, with a large nominal majority at his back, but it was not that which overthrew him, nor is it that which mainly prevents him or some other representative of the party from returning to power. No! It is that change which has of late years come over the House which we pointed out some weeks back, and which the Whig leaders have failed to notice or to appreciate. While these gentlemen have been thinking mainly of office, and power, and patronage, and only of the Liberal party as a body of men to be ennobled, bullied, bribed, or, as the phrase is, "managed," to support her Majesty's Government, there has surged up from the provinces a crowd of men, who cannot be "managed," who will think or act for themselves, and who do the behests of their constituencies rather than those of the "whips." In short, it has come to this: the independent party (that is, in the Treasury phrase, "the party which nobody can depend upon"), which used to be small and powerless, is now become great and unmanageable; and hence the chaotic state of what is called the "Liberal party," and not from the fact that Lord Palmerston and Lord John Russell cannot agree. If these two Noble Lords were to make up their differences, and consent to serve in the same Cabinet, the Whigs might come into power again, and continue in power for a time. But when that shall occur, unless their "leaders" should seriously reflect upon the present state of matters, renounce their old and antiquated traditions, become real instead of mere nominal leaders, rely more upon their measures than upon the sagacity and activity of their "whips," and the judicious distribution of patronage, they will soon be ousted again, and the confusion which now prevails must necessarily recur. In short, it is the old story. There is a contest between the advocates of the old formula and the new facts. The Whigs think that the old Whig formula is perfection, and that with a little stretching it will do for all time, and will cover all the new facts that may arise; but, my lords and gentlemen, it won't—indeed it won't. It will not cover the new facts which have now arisen; and if you are wise you will cast it aside.

SYMPTOMS OF A CHANGE.

"We know not what a day may bring forth." On Friday, when the House arose, there were no outward and visible signs of change. That notable meeting of the 120 "Independent" members which lately

assembled in No. 11 Committee-room, and the "grave orders" which were uttered, and the strong resolutions which were passed, seemed to show that the confusion which reigned in the Liberator's session, was "worse condoned," and that the Derby Government was shattering this session. On Saturday all was still quiet. But on Sunday there were unmitigated rumours that something remarkable was about to happen. On Monday it was known that a *compromis* was to be agreed to, and in the evening of that day Mr. Cardwell placed that notable motion touching the despatch to Lord Canning on the books, which on Friday will bring the two great parties face to face in battle array. It is useless to speculate upon the result of this formidable move, before this paper shall get into the hands of many of our readers, the fight will be ended, unless the debate should be carried over to Monday. But there can be no doubt that the Ministry is in danger. Lots of us to one are freely offered against the Government, but not freely taken. And all the members of the Ministry are gloomily apprehending that their short life will soon be ended. Already, while we write, the parties are earnestly "whipping" for the struggle; and it is probable that we shall have a larger number of members in the coming division than has assembled for many years.

RUMOURS.

Rumour, with her hundred tongues, is very busy in the Lobby and in the Clubs just now. Every tongue is wagging. The Conservatives affirm that there will be a dissolution—the Liberals assert that there will not. With respect to the future Whig Government, which is to be formed if the Derby Ministry should be ousted, it is dark. Rumour at one time asserts that Lord Palmerston will be Premier, but will go to the Upper House, and leave the Lower to the leadership of Lord John Russell; at another, that Lord John will migrate to the Upper House, and Lord Palmerston to stay behind. It is pretty generally asserted that Sir George Grey does not wish to be included in the next Whig Government; that Mr. Labouchere and Mr. Vernon Smith will not be, whether they wish it or not. In short, there is no end to the rumours afloat. But on one thing all are agreed, namely—that "the new Government must be formed upon a new basis than the last." What that means no one seems able to define. In the mouths of some Honourable Members it is easy to see that simply means, "it must include us."

ILLUSTRIOUS STRANGERS.

It has been cordially affirmed that the Duke of Malakoff was a night in the Ambassador's gallery. This is, however, not true. The new French ambassador has not yet made his appearance in the House, but we have had a Frenchman not less illustrious present several times, we allude to Mr. Monteberti. This distinguished writer and orator is fond of coming to the House, and may be often seen listening to the debate and watching the proceedings with evident interest. On Friday night last week he was present in the Peer's gallery, and sat by the side of the young Count de Paris. When Gladstone delivered his oration on the union of the Danubian provinces, the Turkish Ambassador and two Wallachian gentlemen were listeners.

ANOTHER PHASE.

The political kaleidoscope has received another slight shake, and presents a somewhat different phase to that which appeared on Monday night. The defeat on Mr. Cardwell's condemnatory motion seemed due to be certain, and the consequent dissolution of the Government inevitable. But on Tuesday my Lord Ellenborough made a speech in the House of Lords—took all the blame of the censured despatch to himself—and then, like another Quintus Curtius, to save his colleagues, leaped into the gulf. It is now, however, felt in the House of Commons that Lord Ellenborough's resignation will probably be considered a sufficient sacrifice, and that the Ministry will be spared—for a time. On Monday a heavy cloud hung over the future of the Junior Lords and Under Secretaries, but now the cloud has once more "turned its silver lining out." In Conservative circles it is "a consummation devoutly to be wished" that the Government should hold on for one short year more, for then certain functionaries (Disraeli amongst them) will have completed a term of twenty-four months (reckoning their time of office in 1852), and be endowed with pensions for life. But if an accident should happen before that millennial time, of course these blessings will be indefinitely postponed.

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, MAY 7.
HOUSE OF LORDS.

AFFAIRS OF OUDH.

The Earl of Ellenborough laid on the table some correspondence from the Governor-General of India, containing a proclamation, since issued with reference to the landowners of Oude, together with the despatch in reply from the home administration. He moved that the papers should be printed.

Earl GRANVILLE defended the principles of Lord Canning's proclamation to the people of Oude. With regard to the despatch of the Government, it had been withheld even from the Court of Directors till that morning; and that its purport should have been made public in the House of Commons was quite unprecedented. The Government might have requested Lord Canning to resign his post on public grounds; but it was not fair to continue him in office, and give publicity to such a complete censure on him. He hoped the Government would state whether it was their intention to recall Lord Canning.

The Earl of Derby explained the principles on which the Government had acted. They believed that the proclamation, which threatened an almost general confiscation of the land in Oude, would drive the great landowners to despair, and tend to exasperate and prolong the contest in that province. The inhabitants of Oude ought not to be treated like mutinous Sepoys. In writing to Lord Canning, however, they had studiously avoided using any expression calculated to necessitate his resignation. They had not even invited him to recall his proclamation, simply intimating their wish that, in acting upon it he should, to a wide extent, mitigate its severity.

The Duke of ARBUTHNOT believed the Government had fully admitted the principle that the Government of India should be in India, yet it had taken the first opportunity to throw over the Governor-General, and that in the most offensive manner.

Earl GALEY could understand that the Government might feel bound to disapprove the proclamation; but was it right to make the censure public? He strongly condemned the course taken by the Government; he could not see what object was gained by it. He rejected the idea that it was the attempt of a weak Ministry to obtain a little cheap popularity by a few well-turned phrases in favour of justice and moderation; and could only ascribe it to some extraordinary inadvertence which it was impossible to explain. The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH rejoined. In the course the Government had taken, it had been influenced more by regard to the welfare of India than consideration for Lord Canning. No Government deserved to stand a day that did not mark with disapprobation the general confiscation of land threatened by the proclamation. He did not desire the return of Lord Canning, neither did he fear it; the Government would not have done its duty had it acted otherwise.—The motion was then agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

CONSERVATIVE APPOINTMENTS.

Mr. LOCKE, having called attention to some recent appointments of magistrates in Canterbury, insisted that the present Government had been influenced there, and elsewhere, by a desire to strengthen the Conservative party.

This allegation produced a long discussion, in the course of which the material nominations of the present Lord Chancellor were attacked and defended, both generally and with reference to specific instances, by Mr. WILKES, Mr. BRIDGES, Mr. D. JOHNSTONE, Mr. ROEBUCK, Mr. WHITESTONE, and other members.

The subject was at length allowed to drop.

CARDINAL AND ENGLAND.

Mr. A. KINGLEY inquired when the Government would present to the House a copy of the despatch stating that the Government of Saragossa had accepted the despatch of Lord Melbourne, and were prepared to act in accordance with its suggestions; and a copy of Lord Melbourne's despatch.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER declared that the production of the papers asked for might be attended with serious public detriment.

Lord J. Russell thought that the course hitherto pursued in this controversy by her Majesty's Ministers had been very satisfactory. He trusted that they would not relax their efforts to secure redress for Sardinia, and especially to obtain the release of the crew of the *Cagliari* from their Neapolitan imprisonment.

Mr. S. FRIZZARD was unable to give any information respecting the release of the crew; but emphatically assured the House that the Government had no intention of ever consenting to abandon their Sardinian ally.

Mr. GRANTHAM maintained that long since the late Foreign Minister had solemnly pledged this country to support Sardinia.

THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

The House having gone into committee on the Indian government, the adjourned debate on Resolution 2 was resumed, and an amendment, moved by Mr. Rich, discussed, by which the future administration of Indian affairs was to be entrusted to a "President in Council," instead of a Secretary of State.

Lord STANLEY pointed out some official disabilities which would result from the proposed change.

In the course of discussion, Mr. V. SMITH suggested that the phrase should run thus—"A responsible minister of the Crown;" thus leaving the precise title of the functionary to be decided hereafter, when the bill was before the House.

Sir J. PAKINGTON assented to this proposition; which was agreed to; resolution 3 being omitted.

Sir J. PAKINGTON, with a brief explanation, moved Resolution 4, relating to the proposed Council for India.

A motion was made for reporting progress, which was adopted after a miscellaneous discussion, and the debate adjourned.

MONDAY, MAY 10.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE OUDE PROCLAMATION.

The Earl of SHAFTESBURY gave notice that on Friday he should move a resolution condemnatory of the despatch of the Governor-General to the Governor-General of India in reference to his proclamation to the people of Oude.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH thought it might be convenient to Lord Shaftesbury if he communicated the despatch alluded to in extension. (By reference to another column, it will be seen that certain passages in this despatch were omitted from the copy laid on the table of the House of Lords, though they were retained in that presented to the Commons.) His Lordship said he would take the opportunity of explaining the accident by which the document was given to the House of Commons in its original and unimpaired form. It was at first decided that the whole document should be communicated, but at a later hour Lord Derby, himself, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, agreed that it would be expedient to omit some passages of the despatch. Before this agreement, however, could be communicated to the Secretary of the Board of Control, Mr. Russell, the whole of the document had been laid by him before the House of Commons.

In answer to a question by Earl Grey, Lord ELLENBOROUGH admitted that he had received only the first draft of the proclamation, and the Government did not know with certainty that the proclamation had been published in India at all.

An animated conversation ensued, from which it appeared that Mr. Vernon Smith, the late President of the Board of Control, had, since his retirement from office, received a private letter from Lord Canning, in which he stated that the proclamation he was about to issue would probably require some future explanation which the pressure of public business prevented him from giving at the moment. That letter had not been communicated by Mr. Vernon Smith to his successor in office; Lord ELLENBOROUGH was not aware of a letter had been received.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE explained that Mr. Vernon Smith did not receive the letter till after the question in reference to the proclamation had been asked in the House of Commons.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE OUDE PROCLAMATION.

Mr. CARDWELL gave notice of a motion for Thursday, condemnatory of the despatch with reference to the proclamation of the Governor-General of India in relation to Oude.

THE OATHS BILL.

The House having taken into consideration the Lords' amendments of the Oaths Bill,

Lord J. RUSSELL moved that the House do disagree from the amendment by which the 5th clause, omitting the words "on the true faith of a Christian" in the oath when taken by members of the Jewish persuasion, was rejected.

Mr. NEWDEGATE defended the amendment, declaring that the clause was based upon a revolutionary principle—that of indifference to all religions; and warned the House against attempting to supersede the authority of the House of Lords, which would be a direct attack upon the constitution and position of the country.

Sir R. BETHELL said that, should it become necessary, he should feel it to be his duty to suggest a course, perfectly constitutional, by which the great object of the bill might be accomplished. If all appeals to the House of Lords were in vain, and if the exclusion of the Jews from that House depended, as he insisted it did, upon a perverted and fraudulent application of the law, then he conceived it to be the duty of that House to consider whether there was any constitutional course of proceeding left for it to adopt. His proposition would relieve the House from any apprehension of a controversy with the established courts of justice.

After a few remarks by Sir J. Pakington, Mr. Warren, and Mr. T. Duncombe, upon a division it was agreed to dissent from the Lords' amendment by 263 to 150.

The House likewise disagreed from the Lords in excluding the 8th clause, dependent upon the 5th.

On the motion of Lord J. RUSSELL, a committee was appointed to draw up the reasons for disagreeing from the Lords in their amendments.

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE moved that Baron Rothschild be a member of the committee, supporting the motion by the precedent of Sir Joseph Jekyll in 1715, who had been nominated to serve on a committee without having previously taken the oaths at the table.

The motion was seconded by Mr. DILLWYN; but, after some discussion, it was agreed that the debate should be adjourned.

THE ARMY.

On the motion of going into committee of supply, Sir W. COCHRAN commented upon certain points of detail connected with the military service, dwelling especially on the necessity for reforming the recruiting system.

Other topics relating to the management and discipline of the army were recommended by Mr. Monsell, Colonel Knox, Sir F. Smith, and Major Wortley.

General PEELE prefaced the votes of supply by a general statement of the recent augmentations and present state of the army. Before the India mutiny broke out the military force consisted of 157,000 men, of whom 39,000 were on service in India. The present force was 223,000 men, showing an increase of 66,000 within the year. To supply the augmentation already arranged, and fill up the loss from casualties, &c., at least 50,000 recruits must be provided during the current twelvemonth. He apprehended, however, no difficulty in obtaining this number, large as it was, since not fewer than 48,000 men had been enlisted within the last eight months.

The House then went into committee of supply, and the remainder of the sitting was devoted to a miscellaneous discussion of various votes belonging to the army estimates.

TUESDAY, MAY 11.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

RESIGNATION OF LORD ELLENBOROUGH.

The Oude Proclamation of Lord Canning, the Secret Despatch of the Government condemning it, and the private letter from Lord Canning to Mr. Vernon Smith, again became the subjects of discussion.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE corrected a clerical error he had made on Monday evening in stating that Mr. Vernon Smith did not receive the private letter from Lord Canning till after the censure on his proclamation had been pronounced in the House of Commons; it was received before that date.

The Earl of DERBY contended that, as the despatch was not sent out till the 20th of April, and the letter had been received by Mr. Vernon Smith before the 19th, there would have been ample time, had its contents been communicated to Lord Ellenborough, to have considered how it affected the course to be adopted. This point was loudly cheered by the peers on the Ministerial benches, and Lord Derby proceeded to show that it was the duty of Mr. Vernon Smith to have made that communication.

Earl GRANVILLE intimated that Lord Ellenborough had had an opportunity of hearing the contents of a letter Lord Granville had himself received at the same time from Lord Canning; but Lord Ellenborough paid so little attention to it, that, not being able to finish reading it to him, Lord Granville had put it in his pocket. Mr. Vernon Smith was not aware of the existence of the letter till he returned from an absence in Ireland, and found it awaiting him in London. He could not anticipate that a censure of Lord Canning's despatch would have been penned within an hour of its having been received.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH gave the dates when the despatch was written and sent, to prove he should have had ample time, had he been aware of it, to consider Lord Canning's allusion to an explanation which he was prevented forwarding at the moment. But he defended the course he had taken in the most emphatic manner; he had heard no condemnation of the tenor of the despatch; no one had ventured to defend the principle of confiscation. The only question was the propriety of publishing the document.

That publication was entirely his own act, and he took on himself all the responsibility of it. The proclamation of the Governor-General to the people of Oude was directly opposed in principle to the policy the Government had determined to pursue, and he should have been unworthy of a seat in that House if he had done otherwise than condemn it. He might have shown opinion upon it. That might have been the right course, but that course he had not adopted. His colleagues, therefore, ought not to be visited with a question of party; but in India it would be understood as a conflict between the principles of confiscation and expediency. As the decision of Parliament might incline to one principle or the other, so would be the prospects of peace or war in India; and as that decision might be very much swayed by personal considerations, he had determined to remove them, as far as he was concerned, so that the question might be considered on its own merits. He had therefore tendered to her Majesty his resignation, which had been accepted.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH moved that the order for the second reading of the Chief Justice of Bombay Bill, which stood on the paper, be discharged; and on this motion,

The Earl of DERBY addressed the House. He pronounced a warm eulogy of the course taken by Lord Ellenborough; if he had committed any misdeed, he had more than atoned for it by the manly and generous manner in which he had acted. Lord Derby proceeded to defend the tenor of the despatch; but he regretted that so premature an announcement of it had been made. Lord Ellenborough, with the candour, frankness, and honesty which characterised him, took on himself all the responsibility of that step; and, though nothing was so painful as the feeling that he might possibly be suspected of sacrificing a colleague, yet he was bound to consider whether the Cabinet ought to stake its existence as a Government upon the discussion in Parliament of an act of which they had not the slightest censure, and undertake the defence of what they felt they could not fully approve, or accept the noble self-sacrifice Lord Ellenborough had made, in order that his colleagues might have justice done them. On these considerations he had resolved to accept Lord Ellenborough's resignation. But he did so with the deepest regret, and he hoped they should still have the benefit of his impartial advice and great experience in the administration of the affairs of India.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE OUDE DESPATCH.

Mr. CARDWELL fixed his motion on the subject of the Oude despatch for Friday, instead of Thursday.

THE OATHS BILL.

The adjourned debate upon the motion that Baron Rothschild should be nominated upon the committee appointed to confer with the Peers respecting the Oaths Bill, was resumed.

Mr. CARDWELL, who, after examining the local bearings of the case, decided that the House was quite entitled to nominate Baron Rothschild on the committee. Whether a trial service on that committee would involve the Baron in any personal liability was an ulterior question, upon which he would not pronounce an opinion.

Mr. WHITEHEAD opposed the motion, which was supported by Mr. HEADLAM.

Mr. MACMILLAN apprehended that, in appointing Baron Rothschild upon the committee, the House would establish a dangerous and derogatory precedent.

After some remarks from Mr. Collier and Mr. Puller, in support of the motion; and from Mr. Drummond and Mr. Malins against it, the House divided, when there appeared for the motion, 251; against it, 196.

On the motion of Lord J. RUSSELL, the members of the committee were then directed to withdraw at once, to prepare for the conference with the Peers.

DANGEROUS MINING OPERATIONS.

Mr. RICARDO presented some petitions from the copyholders, inhabitants, mayor and corporation of the borough of Hanley, in the Staffordshire potteries, complaining of the peril to their lives and property to which they are subjected by the mining operations under the Duchy of Lancaster; and moved for a select committee to inquire into the allegations of the petitioners.

Mr. BAILEY denied that the copyholders had any just ground for complaint; and for every real grievance the courts of law provided an effectual remedy.

Alderman COPELAND supported the motion, while the HOME SECRETARY maintained that the inquiry would be perfectly useless and futile.

Some further discussion ensued, after which the motion was negatived by 128 yeas to 63 nays.

PRIVATE BILLS.

Lord R. CYCIL moved, by way of resolution, "That in the opinion of the House it was expedient that investigations into the merits of private bills, at present conducted by select committees of that House, should in future, as soon as the necessary arrangements could be made, be conducted by a paid and permanent tribunal."

The measure was opposed by Lord STANLEY, and ultimately withdrawn.

SANITARY CONDITION OF THE ARMY.

Lord EBRINGTON moved a series of resolutions, setting forth that the long-continued excessive mortality of the British army has been mainly caused by the bad sanitary condition of their barracks accommodation. That the House has viewed with satisfaction the efforts of successive Governments, aided by parliamentary grants, to improve the moral, intellectual, and physical condition of the British soldier, but that much still remains to be done with regard to barracks accommodation, both for its increase and its improvement. That in the opinion of the House such increase and improvement are imperatively called for, not less by good policy and true economy than by justice and humanity. The Noble Lord supported his motion by copious references to tables showing the army rates of mortality as compared with those of other professions and trades, and described the deficiencies and mismanagement of the military barracks, to which, as he insisted, the deplorable excess of deaths and disease among the soldiers were entirely attributable.

After a discussion, in which Lord Palmerston and Mr. S. Herbert supported the motion,

General PEELE stated that many improvements in the soldiers' barracks had been already effected, and more were in course of execution. He promised to pay every possible attention to the question.

The motion was agreed to.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE POOR-RATES BILL.

Mr. AYRTON moved the second reading of this bill, the object of which is to equalise the poor-rates of the metropolis. He said he did not anticipate that the measure would receive any strong support from the House, as few members resided in those parishes which came there for justice. He then quoted a number of instances showing the great differences in the poor-rates in eastern and western parishes. The poor man, with £50 or £60 a year, residing in the poor districts, paid as much as the man of £400 or £500 who lived in more favoured localities.

Mr. S. ESTCOURT opposed the bill, as did also Sir B. HALL and some other members.

Mr. J. LOCKE supported it. The measure was at length withdrawn, Mr. AYRTON expressing his intention to introduce the subject again next session.

The second reading of the Patent Law Amendment Bill was negatived.

The Reformatory Schools (Ireland) Bill was read a second time.

THURSDAY, MAY 13.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House of Lords did not sit on Thursday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MR. V. SMITH AND LORD CANNING.

In reply to a series of questions put by Mr. Newdegate,

Mr. V. SMITH gave an explanation respecting the "private letter" from Lord Canning, the substance of which explanation was that he had received such letter, dated the 6th of March; that it contained a paragraph referring to a proclamation which Lord Canning stated he intended to issue; and that it did not appear to him (Mr. Smith) at the time, and still, that it was of that importance to render it necessary that he should communicate it to Lord Ellenborough. He added—(this part of his explanation provoking ironical cheers)—that he had read the letter to Lord Palmerston, to whom it did not occur, any more than to himself, that the communication should be made to the Government.

OATHS BILL.

Lord J. RUSSELL brought up the report of the committee appointed to draw up the reasons for disagreeing from the amendments of the Lords on the Oaths Bill. The reasons were agreed to by the House, after a protest from Mr. Newdegate, and, upon the motion of Lord J. Russell, a message was ordered to be sent to the Lords desiring a conference.

JOINT-STOCK BANKS.

Mr. PEARCE moved the second reading of the Joint-Stock Banking Companies Bill.

Mr. BLACK argued strongly against the Bill, which was also opposed by Sir R. Carden, Mr. Bovill, Mr. Gurney. Sir W. Dunbar, Sir C. Lewis,

Mr. Malins, Mr. Ruxton, Mr. Spooner, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, supported it. Ultimately the Bill was read a second time.

CHURCH RATES.

On going into Committee on the Church-rates Bill,

The first clause, abolishing the rates, was carried, after a long debate, by 227 to 161. On the motion of Sir A. Eliot a clause was added, providing that any church-rates made before the passing of the Act may be collected in the same way as if the Act had not passed.

Violent Storm in the Metropolis.—On Thursday, Southwark and Lambeth were visited by a most violent storm, which did the roofs of houses, carried a pile off their tops, blew banners higher than the houses-tops, and the roofs exposed out of the shop-into the street and across the road. The damage was very considerable.

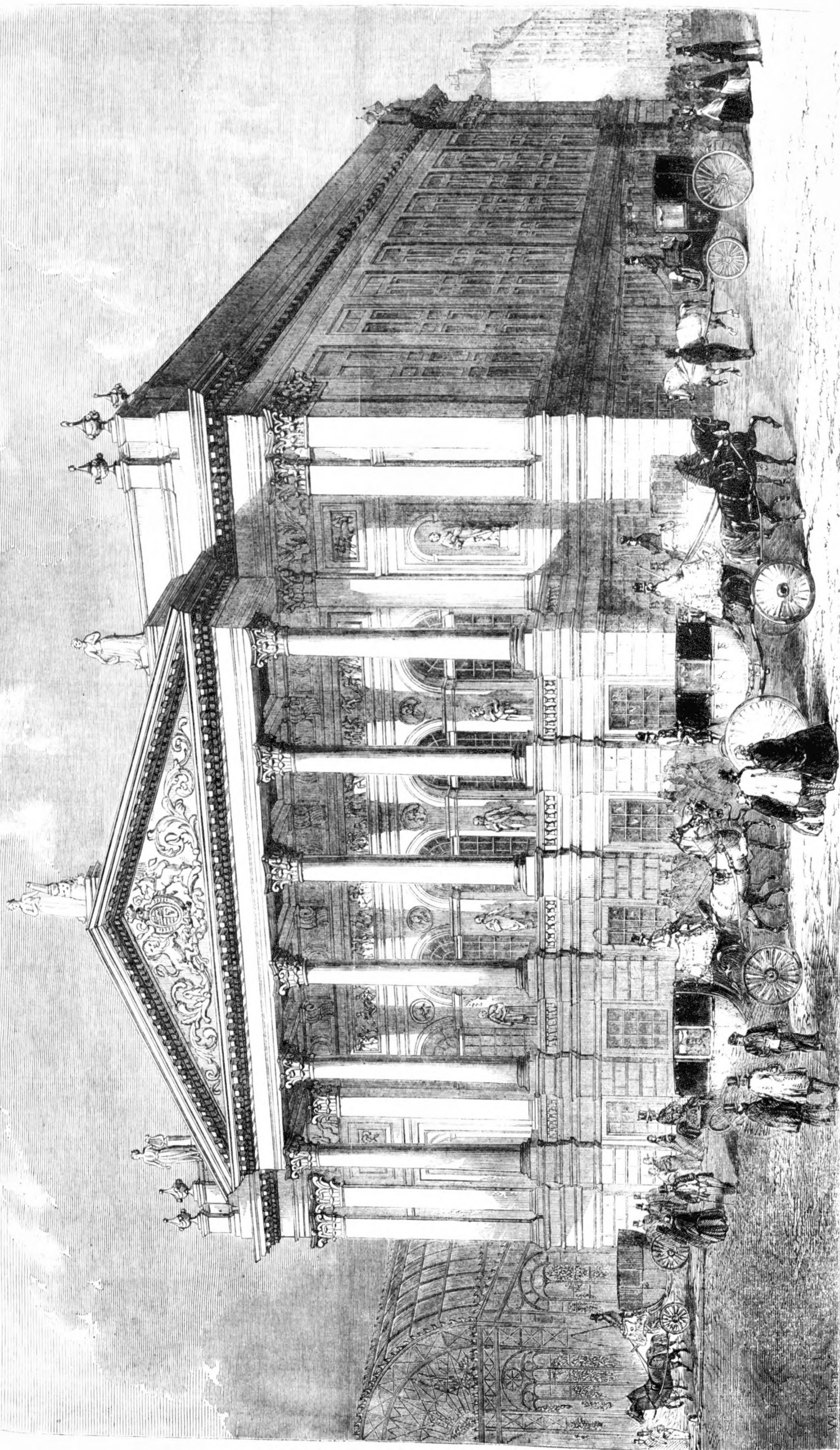
THE NEW OPERA HOUSE, COVENT GARDEN.

This building which within a few months has risen from the ruins of Covent Garden Theatre, where a piece of decayed, is externally a huge structure nearly 100 feet high by 122 ft. 4 in. broad, and no less than 240 feet long—about one-fifth larger than the late theatre, and about the same size as the celebrated La Scala of Milan, hitherto the largest in the world. The four outer walls of the building carry everything, and, in order to make them of the requisite strength and lightness, they are constructed on the cellular principle. Each of the four walls is apparently about 14 feet thick, though it is in reality composed of two walls, the outer of 5 feet and the inner 2 feet, with transverse walls also 2 feet thick, at intervals of 20 feet apart, and running up between them from top to bottom. These, with wrought-iron tie-rods, holding both inner and outer walls together, give immense strength and lightness to the whole. The roof proper, if we may so call it, as distinct from the rich ceiling which is seen by the audience, is at once fire-proof, roomy, light, and of great strength. It is composed of nine great lattice girders of wrought iron, each of which is 50 feet long by 18 inches broad, and 9 feet 6 inches deep. These, each of them weighing 18 tons, and equal to a dead strain of 300, are placed at intervals of 20 feet apart, and floored between at the bottom, while on them rests a ridge and turreted roof of glass and iron. Thus, between each pair of girders are spacious rooms 90 feet long by 20 wide, and about 14 high, which are to be used as carpenters' workshops, storerooms, &c. To the girders are hung the ornamental dome-shaped ceilings. The whole dome, a beautiful feature in Italian architecture, apparently rests on four arches—three forming the front and side galleries, and one over the proscenium. The latter has been constructed with special reference to its acoustic properties. The shape of the old house was a perfect horseshoe, with the proscenium columns projecting inwards, so that those in the side boxes could scarcely see the stage at all. The present building approaches more to the form of the old Greek theatre—a perfect semicircle with the sides prolonged, and only sloping in sufficiently to give a graceful outline, without at all intercepting the view even from the end boxes. Those who like the lofty and somewhat imposing appearance which many tiers of boxes always impart to the house will be sorry to find that in the new one there are only three—the pit, grand, and upper tier. There are thirty-six boxes on each tier, each of which is wider and deeper than in the old house, and each of which is no less than 9 feet 6 inches high. Above the third tier, at the back facing the stage, is the amphitheatre, much larger in size and infinitely more commodious with regard to seats than in the old house. On a level with this, at each side of the house, is a row of ten or twelve upper side boxes, and above these are two side galleries, with the large gallery at the back of all over the amphitheatre. A spacious corridor, 8 feet wide and very lofty, runs behind each tier of boxes, communicating with all parts of the theatre from end to end. Strong wrought iron girders built into the walls form the boxes, supported on cast-iron columns at intervals of 10 feet apart, and resting one on another from the top of the top tier down to the floor of the pit. The pit will hold 900 greater number of spectators than the old house used to do. There are eleven rows of pit stalls, each stall of which is, in fact, a comfortable arm-chair 2 feet 2 inches wide, and with 3 feet 3 inches interval between each row. There are ten rows of pit seats, with the same width for each seat and the same interval between each row as was the case with the stalls in the old house. The slope of the pit is one in eighteen, and the stage is raised 4 feet 6 inches above the level of the front pit stalls. Seen from the stage, then, the house presents one grand amphitheatre.

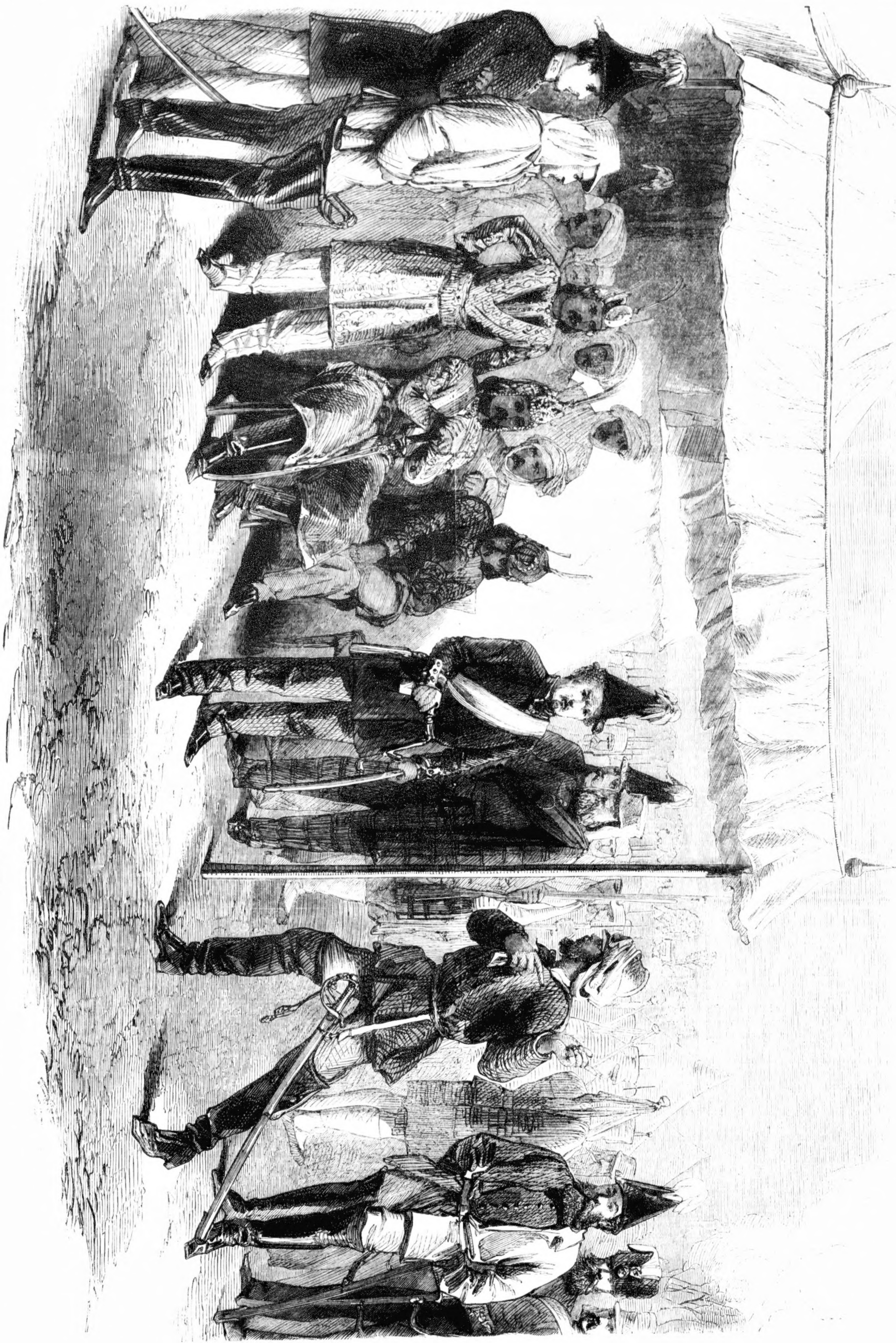
The Queen's box is on the right hand side of the house, and has a private entrance and staircase from Hart Street, and a beautifully decorated anteroom attached to it. The Duke of Bedford has similar accommodation, but, of course, on a more limited scale. The places of entrance and exit for the public are unusually lofty and numerous, and in all the public staircases, those fertile sources of accident, well-holes and balustrades, are completely avoided, by carrying up solid walls in their stead. The grand entrance is in Bow Street, where, of course, there is "a colonnade, where tender beauty waiting for her coach protrudes her gloveless hand and feels the shower." This entrance forms a kind of basement story to the grand portico which rises over it, and from which the entrance porch is separated by a roof. Five large double doors admit from the porch to the entrance-hall, which is 60 feet long by 25 broad, and proportionately lofty. This is on a level with the pit tier. A staircase 12 feet wide conducts to the crush-room, which is on a level with the grand tier, and is the noblest apartment of its kind yet built. It is 80 feet long, by about 30 wide, and 30 high. Five immense windows open from this room on to the portico built over the carriage porch, and which in summer will be available as a promenade, in addition to the crush-room. The portico itself is one of the finest yet built for any modern theatre. Its extreme width is 82 feet by 81 feet high. All its columns are of solid stone, 37 feet high by 3 feet 8 inches in diameter. Our readers will be better able to judge of these magnificent dimensions by comparing them with those of the well-known portico of St. Martin's Church, which is 65 feet wide by 60 feet high, and the columns 33 feet high by 3 feet 6 inches diameter at the base. Flaxman's sculptures were fortunately saved almost uninjured from the ruins of the old theatre, and these have been incorporated by Mr. Barry into the details of the new portico.

Now-a-days the Opera season scarcely lasts more than fifteen weeks—by no means a sufficient time to defray the rental and other heavy expenses of such an immense establishment as that of Covent Garden. During the "unseasonable" part of the year, therefore, we believe it is not Mr. Gye's intention to leave his theatre a prey to dust and cobwebs, and though there will be no more *bat masques*, yet dramatic entertainments, at least during the winter months, will be once more restored to Covent Garden. The idea is a good one, and the manner in which Mr. Gye intends to carry it out is still better. This is one of the chief reasons for having each tier of boxes of the great height we have mentioned—9 feet 6 inches. The pit tier of boxes is constructed so as, out of the season, to remove entirely, and allow the pit to be extended back to the actual walls, where the height of the grand tier will let the audience see all that passes on the stage without stooping to avoid the ceiling above or knocking their heads against it, as in our old-fashioned theatres. The hangings of the grand tier, also, and the divisions between its boxes, are made so as to enable them to be removed at twenty-four hours' notice, and thus the whole tier on the occasion of winter dramatic performances can be converted at once into a spacious dress circle.

Partly in connection with the Opera-House is hereafter to be built a grand floral arcade, running along the entire length of the building, from Bow Street to Covent Garden. This building will be of glass and iron, light and elegant in form, appearance, and decoration, as suits the purpose for which it will be used—a floral appendage to Covent Garden Market, and where only flowers will be sold. On the great nights of the operatic season, this will be lighted up, and remain open as a promenade for the audience, two or three entrances being provided which will admit at once from the theatre to the arcade. However, this excellent idea will not, we think, be carried out this year. We can very easily content ourselves with what has already been achieved.



THE NEW ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA-HOUSE, COVENT GARDEN.—[EDMUND BARRY, ARCHITECT.]



INTERVIEW BETWEEN SIR C. CAMPBELL AND THE MAHARAJAH JUNG BAHADUR.

THE MEETING OF SIR COLIN CAMPBELL AND JUNG BAHADOOR.

THE engraving on the next page illustrates the meeting of Sir Colin Campbell and Jung Bahadoor during the assault on Lucknow, and while the Begum's palace was being attacked. "It was five o'clock," says a writer in the "Times," "and the musketry was rolling out in great volleys. Sir Colin was walking up and down, like a man who had waited quite long enough for his wife to get on her bonnet, and was about to stand it no longer, when a great buzz amid the soldiers announced the arrival of Jung Bahadoor, 'the Lord of Battle,' and the hand of the Highlanders and the thunder of the guns gave him welcome. Inside the canopy were Sir Archdale Wilson, Colonel Hogg, Colonel Young, Colonel Sterling, Sir Hope Grant, Major Bruce, Major Norman, Dr. Fife, &c. As the Maharajah approached the Commander-in-Chief, his aides-de-camp on duty stepped out to meet him. Who in London does not remember the Maharajah's diamonds and jewelled head-dresses? In the light of the setting sun they even looked more brilliant than under the opera chandelier. Indeed, he was so very brilliant, that for a time one only looked at the casque and at the scarlet coat, crisp with jewels and gold, and not at the man who wore them. With white kid-gloved hand raised to his glittering crest, above which nodded a plume of bird of Paradise feathers, delicately loaded with emeralds and diamonds, Jung Bahadoor advanced towards Sir Colin Campbell, took the outstretched hand of our chief, and introduced him to his two brothers, who, almost equally gaudy in attire and rich in decoration, accompanied him. They seated themselves on chairs, anything but easy for them, on the right of Sir Colin, whose staff sat on his left, and then there was a long interchange of courteous speeches; but Sir Colin's mind seemed intent on the Begum's palace, and his ears fixed on the rapid roll of musketry. Still the speeches and conversation went on, the Maharajah's quick eye glancing furtively from staff to Highlander, and back again.

"In the midst of all this courtly ceremony, a tall figure, covered with dust, broke through the crowd of spectators at the end of the line of Highlanders and strode up towards the chief, who rose from his seat and advanced to meet him. It was strange enough, amid all this glitter of gold lace and fine clothes, to see this apparition in hoddie and tunic, turbaned cap, and trunk boots, with long sword clanking on the ground, and head and face and garments covered with dust, walking stilly up the aisle of men. 'I am desired by the Chief of the Staff, sir, to tell you that we have taken the Begum's Palace, with little loss, and are now in possession of it and the adjoining buildings.' And with a few pleased words from Sir Colin, the Deputy-Adjutant-General to the Chief of the Staff, marched out of the crowd again and vanished. Jung Bahadoor perhaps imagined it was a well-executed *coup de théâtre*; but it was a hard reality, as hard almost as the skirl of the bagpipes, which were played by six fine Highlanders as ever trod on heather, who walked twice in front of us to a heart-stirring pibroch, and then played a few *morceaux* to the great delight of the Bahadoor. His Excellency finally mounted, with his brothers, on two elephants with gorgeous howdah cloths, and returned to his camp."

It is said that when Maun Singh came in to Jung Bahadoor, and made some explanations respecting his Laodicean conduct, the latter said, "Oh, don't make excuses. Had I not visited London, is likely I would have been on the other side myself."

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE REVEREND JOHN B. ROBERTS, writing from "near Alnwick," has addressed to us a polite and learned letter on the subject of our recent leader on Scottish University Reform. The Reverend Gentleman—a faithful son of his Alma Mater, Cambridge—seems to think that we did that University an injustice, by casually speaking of Oxford as the representative of English classical scholarship. The truth, however, is, that we had no wish to imply anything so uncourteous; that our object was not to contrast the scholarship of Oxford with that of Cambridge, but the scholarship of England with that of Scotland—in the course of which we only followed a common custom by making Oxford the representative pro forma of this particular branch of learning. We are well aware that Cambridge boasts Bentley, and Parr, and Porson, besides such living men as Paley, Donaldson, and Shillito. But the general fact that Oxford represents classical, as distinct from mathematical learning, is surely very widely admitted. Our correspondent, too, will hardly deny that it would not be easy to parallel anywhere such scholars of the generation just going by as the Oxonians Fynes, Clinton, and Gaisford, and particularly such Latin stylists as Bishop Copleston and Mr. Keble.

HARRY DRAPER (DUBLIN).—We regret that want of space obliges us to defer the insertion of your letter till next week.

ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, MAY 15, 1858.

THE LESSON OF THE WEEK.

THE political discussions of this week have given us some dreary specimens of the way in which government business is done in this country. Here we are again on the verge of a "crisis," and with everything postponed to party struggles, and it comes out that the difficulty is more than half caused by the irregularities in the carrying on of affairs, and men whose political rank depends on their knowing better. It is melancholy enough to consider what effect such doings may produce in India; but, even apart from that danger, it is disgraceful that they should happen in England.

An important proclamation—a document which may prove of infinite consequence—arrives at home. It is the manifesto of an English Governor-General to the rulers of a huge province with which we are at war. Along with it comes a private letter to Mr. Vernon Smith—but one of those private letters which are constantly sent in *illustration of public ones*—announcing that the peculiar nature of this proclamation is soon to be explained. The said private letter is not communicated by Mr. Smith to the one man in the world whom it most concerns to know it—his successor, Lord Ellenborough. Accordingly, Lord Ellenborough, not having the check upon him which this very caution was intended to produce, writes and acts on the dangerous-looking proclamation as it stands. This is Act First in the farce of England's Government. Mr. V. Smith was away—managing a family marriage with an Earl's house, it seems—for it is to some distant marriage connection with the Whig, Lord Lansdowne, that he owes his political position and name of Vernon—

and of course he is anxious to acquire another claim on the gratitude of the country.

Now comes another Act. Lord Ellenborough, ignorant of the coming explanation from the East, and seeing only that a whole province is to be confiscated, writes or makes to be written a censorious and important despatch—reflecting his brains, and even more than commonly, his energy. But this, the most vital document yet issued in the name of the Derby Ministry, he never submits to the judgment of a Minister! He acts as independently of the Cabinet as if he did not know what the Cabinet was for.

This was the second blunder. But now we have the third. The Secretary of the Board of Control, without consulting his colleagues any more than his Chief had, gets up in answer to a sudden question, and makes a clean breast about the despatch, which he undertakes to lay on the table. An immediate hubbub follows, and (singular step No. 4) Lord Ellenborough resigns, and his friends accept his resignation. He does not resign, or at least does not resign *only*, because his colleagues disapprove of his policy, but because he has suffered that policy to be known to the public, through the publication of his despatch.

Surely, this whole affair gives a very discreditable picture of the way in which the business of the country is now managed, and managed by men of quite different parties. From first to last, everything is higgledy-piggledy, and nobody seems to know what he ought to be about, or with whom he ought to co-operate. There is a succession of blunders and misunderstandings, and one of the ablest men of a new Cabinet disappears after a reign that has to be counted only in weeks.

We do not condescend to look at such affairs from the point of view whether their confusion will bring back Palmerston or Russell; the only point of view, of course, which interests the petty intriguers of the lobbies, and the illiterate gossips of the clubs. But we do feel a serious interest in the question, how it will ultimately affect the interests of England and of India, and how India is to be governed by England if such a state of things lasts. No doubt there will be plenty of people to tell us that the Indian views of Mr. Layard are too gloomy, but we do not think anybody can doubt that he has at least shown an amount of disaffection to exist which will make our government of the country a very difficult and delicate operation. What then may we expect if hitches like those we have been discussing are to occur at every step in our Indian legislation? If important letters are to be neglected, important steps taken by ministers without consultation, &c., &c.? Verily, the India Company is already acquiring a right to chuckle at the way Parliament does its Indian work; and the country is getting more deeply despondent about its Parliament altogether. We are advancing, in short, to a stage, when the country will not be the least hopeful about the substitution of one set of men for another, or the least excitable at the announcement of a "crisis." Something of the kind is apparent already, and when it has become sufficiently complicated by social difficulties, the position of the country will be one that few public men we see now-a-days will be at all capable of encountering.

WONDERFUL, IF TRUE.—"We are informed (says the "Observer") that there is no truth in the statement that Mr. Bright has been offered a seat in Lord Derby's Cabinet. It may be true that indirect negotiations were set on foot for the purpose of trying to effect an arrangement of this nature; but the respected member for Birmingham, with that due care of his own health and interests which is so necessary an element of successful patriotism, is afraid that if the care of office were added to his other duties, his life might not long be spared to his grateful and indulgent country. It is very seldom that the health of one man is of the importance to the preservation of the commonwealth which that of Mr. Bright's is at this moment."

THE LIBERAL PARTY IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—A meeting of Liberal Members was held last week in one of the committee-rooms of the House of Commons, to consider the present disorganised state of the party. Very erroneous reports of this meeting have been made public. According to the "Times," Mr. Huddell was in the chair; about 120 Members were present. The resolutions adopted declared that "no Government will be worthy of confidence which shall not manifest zeal and sincerity in reforming our institutions, and our administrative departments; and which shall not rest upon a basis wider than that of recent Governments." Another resolution pronounced it "desirable" that two gentlemen should "undertake the duty of sending circulars to Members who may wish to receive them, giving notice of any matter in Parliament likely to interest the independent Liberal party, and that Mr. Forster and some gentleman selected by him be requested to perform the duty."—The meeting is regarded as altogether unimportant, as its results were certainly commonplace and vague.

THE NEW ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.—It is stated that Hull is to be the great intermediate station of the Transatlantic British and Irish Telegraph Company for the transmission of messages between America and the continent of Europe. A four-wire cable is now being laid in the neighbourhood of Hull for this purpose. London, Liverpool, Manchester, and Glasgow, will be placed in direct communication with Hull, as well as with Valencia, on the Irish coast, whence messages will be received from America. Communications intended for the Continent will be forwarded direct to Hull, and thence along the cable now about to be carried via Withersea to Spurn Point, where it leaves the British Isles and passes directly across the North Sea to Cuxhaven, at the entrance of the Elbe, and thence by land to Hamburg, the principal terminal station on the Continent. Mr. Powell, one of the company's engineers, is now in Hull preparing for the transmission of messages by sound, the vibrations being produced by strokes upon a fine-tuned bell, entirely dispensing with the use of the needle. It is expected that the communication between New York and Hull will be completed by July next.

LIEUTENANT PIM PROMOTED.—Lieutenant Bedford Pim, favourably known for his energy in Arctic service, has received promotion under date April 19, 1858. This enterprising officer distinguished himself in the course of the recent operations in China, more especially in an attack upon a Chinese village, in a manner to deserve the commendations of Sir Michael Seymour. He has returned home invalided, having been severely wounded while engaged in the discharge of his duty.

CHEQUES ON BANKERS.—A misunderstanding appearing to prevail that the adhesive stamps of 1d. applicable to receipts or draughts on demand will not be useable for cheques on bankers drawn within fifteen miles of the place of payment when the duty thereon shall become payable, we are authorised and requested to state that it will be entirely optional with the public to use either the adhesive stamps above-mentioned or an impressed stamp, in the same way as they may now do, and have hitherto done, on checks drawn beyond fifteen miles.

ELECTION EXPENSES IN VICTORIA.—According to the Victoria Electoral Proceedings Regulations Act, every candidate is compelled to advertise the amount expended by him in his election. The following is the account published by Mr. Board, the member recently returned (without opposition) for Geelong. Election Expenses, George Board, Esq. To D. Harrison and Co., advertisement, 4s.; paid by election agent, 4s.—James Duncan, Election Auditor.—Geelong, March 5, 1858.

CAMP AT CHATHAM.—The Duke of Cambridge having decided on putting a part of the troops belonging to the East India regiments at this garrison under canvas, the men belonging to the Royal Sappers and Miners have commenced putting the tents. The proposal to form the camp on Chatham Lines has been abandoned, and the spot now chosen for the formation of the camp for the troops of the 1st battalion is inside the Spur Battery, adjoining the lines, from which it is separated by a broad and deep fosse. The tents are nearly square in form, and will each accommodate sixteen men; each officer will be allowed a separate tent. The troops will not be permitted to sleep on the earth, and a large number of small portable iron bedsteads have been provided for them. The tents for the 2nd battalion are to be erected near those of the 1st battalion; the 3rd battalion will be encamped near Prince Edward's Bastion.

A LEGACY TO HUNCHBACKS.—An eccentric person, the Marquis Malaizi, of Florence, just deceased, has ordered, by his will, a portion of his fortune to be invested, and the interest to be paid to the "most hump-backed man" in Tuscany. The recipient of the income is to be chosen by twelve other hump-backed men, each of whom, for his trouble, is to be rewarded with a gold medal bearing the effigy of *Æsop*.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN gave on Monday evening a State Ball, to which a party of about 1,500 were invited.

A RADICAL PAPER OF BERLIN is now under prosecution for having published a libel on the Emperor Napoleon in furnishing its readers with extracts from Mr. Edwin James's speech, and commenting upon them. The police seized the paper immediately after the publication.

MR. PERKINSON LEIGH, the distinguished lawyer, is to be tried by the Peers.

SIR COLIN CAMPBELL's title will be Lord Campbell of Clyde, in allusion to his being born on that river near Glasgow.

THE RECENT PRESENTATION of the model gun and its significant emblem, the Emperor of the French is about to be succeeded by the presentation of the French nation of a most interesting relic, which has been deposited in the Royal Repository, at Woolwich, since 1819—namely, the 14-inch gun, which served to convey the body of the Imperial exile of St. Helena to the tomb.

CORONEL WAUGH, of Eastern Bank notoriety, is, we are told, leaving his luxury at Cadix, with a carriage, &c., his wife keeping two high *chaises*.

CONSTANTINOPLE LETTERS OF THE 25TH ULT. state that on the day previous a rather sharp shock of earthquake was felt, accompanied by a tremor similar to that of a discharge of several pieces of artillery. No damage was caused.

THE RAPHAEL CARTEONS are all to be lowered to the level of the street. This will be a great boon, since notoriously in apartments built at the period of this portion of the Palace all the upper two-thirds of the walls are in perpetual gloom.

A COURT OF DIRECTORS OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY was held on Monday, at which a vote strongly expressing the confidence of the Company in Lord Canning was passed, we believe, unanimously.

THE NEW IDEAL for the clock tower at Westminster has been taken out of the mould in a perfectly sound state, so far as can be ascertained on the closest inspection, although it will be impossible to know this with certainty until it has been swung. It makes confidently expect that the tower will be powerful, rich, and clear, and that the desired noise will be attained.

THE LATE LORD ADVOCATE was entertained at a dinner, given at the Traveller, Greenwich, on Saturday evening, by members of both sides of the House of Commons.

A NEW THEATRE is to be erected on the site of the Pavilion Theatre, destroyed by fire two or three years ago.

THE WAGES OF THE LABORERS employed in the Government dockyards, have been raised from thirteen to fourteen shillings a week.

THE BAND OF THE FRENCH NATIONAL GUARD, one of the finest of its kind in Europe, has arrived in this country, to add by its performances to the musical attractions of the season. The band has already been heard at the Crystal Palace, and at St. James's Hall.

THE SIREW STEAMSHIP DIADOME, thirty-two guns, is appointed to convey the Marquis of Bath and suite on his embassy to Lisbon, in company with the Portuguese corvette Bartholomew Dias.

LORD DERRY, to whom the Court case has been submitted, has resolved to relieve the three daughters of the late Henry Cort by a grant of £200 from the Royal Bounty Fund.

THE EMPRESS REGENT, on Tuesday week, completed her thirty-second year.

THE RIGHT OF SALE of the oil from the lamp which burns night and day before the altar in the new chapel at La Salette has been conceded to the Augustine ladies at the Batignolles, who behold the faithful flock in vast numbers for its purchase, as a remedy for ophthalmia.

THE "GAZETTE AUSTRICHENNE" has the following little bit of official bravado:—"Let collision arise between Austria and Piedmont, and the house of Savoy with or without allies has ceased to reign!"

M. MONTAUBRY, a tenor from Brussels, has just been engaged at the Opéra Comique, it is said for five years, at a salary of £1,600 per annum.

THE TREATY, relative to the construction of a fixed bridge over the Rhine, has been signed by the commissioners of all the governments interested in the question.

MARSHAL BOSQUET is very ill, and has been visited by the Archbishop of Paris.

SIR HENRY LYTTON BULWER is to succeed Lord Stratford de Redcliffe as the British Ambassador at Constantinople.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR has reported to the House of Lords that the right of Thomas Earl of Ranfurly to vote at the election of representative peers for Ireland has been established to his satisfaction.

SIR JOHN PAKINGTON has offered to place vessels at the disposal of science for observation of the great eclipse of September next—the points for seeing which, to astronomical advantage, lie in South America, and particularly along the Lima.

MR. HENRY BERKELEY, M.P., will bring on the annual motion for the Ballot, on Tuesday, the 8th of June next.

LETTERS FROM KARLSKRONA, in Sweden, mention a kind of mutiny having broken out there in a regiment of artillery, from Mormon soldiers refusing to attend the usual religious instruction.

A ROYAL COMMISSION is to be appointed to report as to the best means of affording to the inhabitants of the metropolitan districts, within six miles of Charing Cross, a relief from the abolition of turnpike-gates and toll-bars.

SIR CHARLES NAPIER'S ROMANCE, "HAROLD," is about to be issued, under the title of "William the Conqueror." It will be remembered that Sir E. B. Lytton has a novel, entitled "Harold," which Sir W. Napier says is uncommonly like his brother's romance, written years before; and the M.S. of which (if we remember rightly) was for some time missing.

THE HOR DISTRICTS present a very favourable appearance.

THE PARIS IMPERIAL PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT possesses the type of fifty-six Eastern languages, being all that are known of the characters of Asia, ancient or modern. The number of presses on the premises is such, that 556 reams of paper, equivalent to 9,266 octavo volumes of thirty sheets, could be struck off in a single day.

THE HALLSWORTH FARMER'S CLUB have passed the following resolution:—"That Autumn cultivation is one of the greatest improvements in modern agriculture; and that with it the increased growth of roots on heavy land will ultimately, in the opinion of this club, put an end to the system of bare fallowing."

THE WATERMAN in whose boat several seamen were drowned last week, in Plymouth Sound, had a verdict of manslaughter returned against him at the inquest. He had thirteen persons on board, though the boat was licensed to carry only ten.

THE RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY issued during the past year 13,018,481 tracts; and the aggregate circulation of their various periodicals was 10,900,820. The total circulation of tracts and books during the fifty-nine years of the Society's existence is stated to be no less than 782,000,000.

THE TREASURERS OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE IN AID OF THE INDIAN RELIEF FUND have, by the last mail, transmitted to the Lord Mayor a draft for £3,000 towards the relief of the sufferers by the Indian rebellion.

MR. JUSTICE COLERIDGE, the senior puisne judge of the Court of Queen's Bench, has, we hear, tendered his resignation to the Lord Chancellor, from the end of next term. The names of Mr. Hugh Hill, Mr. Whateley, and Mr. Butt, are mentioned as candidates for the vacant judgeship.

DARING ROBBERY.—As the brougham of Colonel Tighe was proceeding up Park Lane, at about eleven o'clock one evening last week, a man let down the blind and abstracted the cushions. He was seen by a gentleman, who called to the coachman, but the thief escaped.

PREACHERS IN PINAFORNES.—"We have a new prodigy in this city, in the person of a boy preacher. He is about fifteen years of age. His name is Crammond Kennedy. He is a Baptist, and belongs to the church of the Rev. Mr. Adams, of Christopher Street. He is a convert in the late revival, has already been licensed to preach by that church, and is just now attracting large crowds to hear him. His style is vehement; and his sermons have in them much method; he speaks wholly extemporaneously; and his system of theology seems to be mature and after the school of the sounder and more conservative schools of the day. He preaches and speaks nearly every night. His houses are crowded to overflowing; and for a season he will be the great attraction of our city."—New York correspondence of the "Boston Journal."

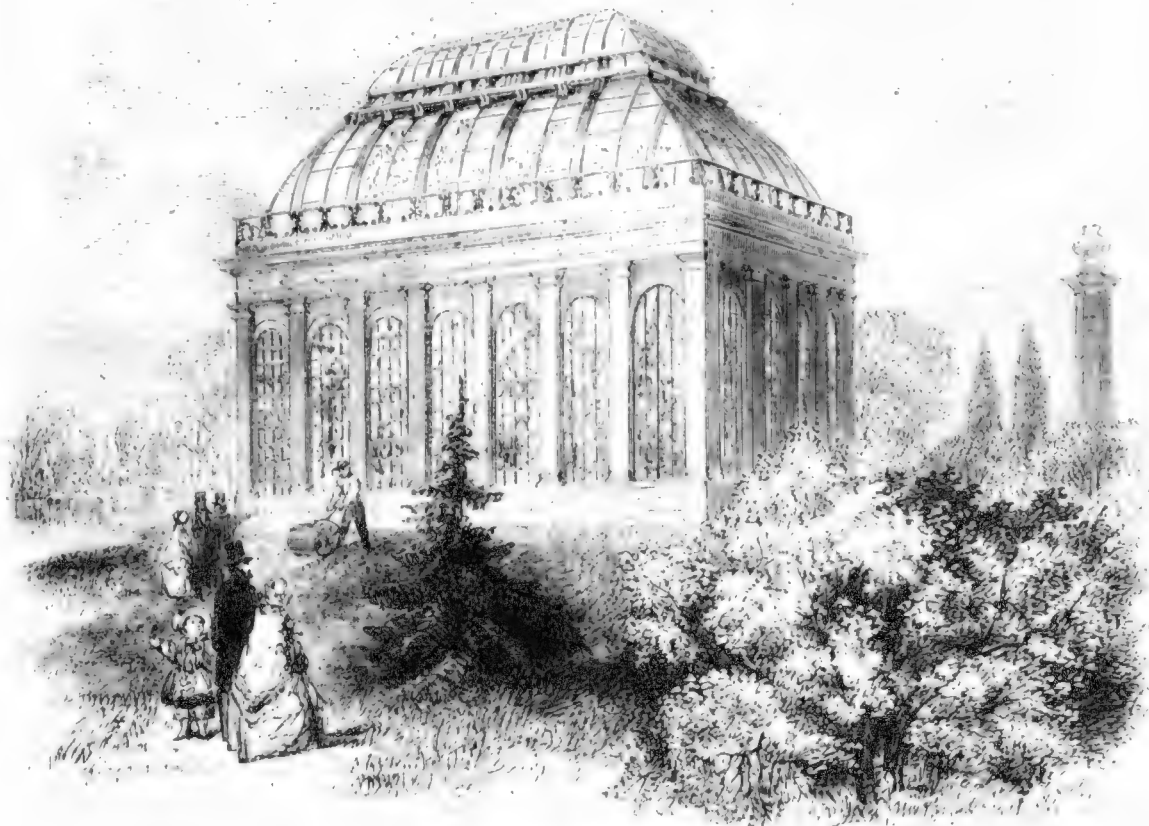
MISADVENTURE IN A BALLOON.—M. Poitevin, the well-known French aeronaut, has lately been making balloon ascents at Seville. A short time back he offered to the public ascents in what he called "aerial pleasure trains," that is, in balloons secured by ropes. The first ascents went off very well, and he had numerous applications for others. At length, in an ascent which came off a few days ago, the rope that held the balloon broke, and the balloon shot rapidly up. The persons who accompanied Poitevin were so terrified at finding themselves loose in the realms of space, that they threatened to throw him out of the car. With some difficulty, however, he succeeded in pacifying them, and brought them down safely.

THE NEW PALM HOUSE
AT THE
EDINBURGH BOTANIC GARDENS.

This new palm-house, the building of which was commenced in April, 1876, is just finished. The palms have been placed in it, and it is now open to the public. It is a very elegant structure, and from several points in the city forms a prominent object; being, in fact, a Crystal Palace on a small scale. The old building is an octagon of about 60 feet by 60. The new one, which is erected alongside, is an oblong square, 100 feet by 60. The principal entrance is from the west, and opposite it the eye takes in both buildings, the breadth there being upwards of 120 feet. The roof of the old house was so low that the tops of the larger palms had to be cut off to keep them within the building; the roof of the new one is seventy-two feet from the ground—higher than the magnificent palm-house at Kew, and giving ample space for the very tallest of the trees. The smaller palms are ranged upon two rows of stone tables raised about two feet from the ground, and the larger ones are placed on the floor in wooden tubs. Altogether, there are about 200 palms, many of them very old, and some of them the finest in the country. When the whole of them are arranged (as by this time they probably are), they will present a very striking appearance, both from the entrance and from the iron gallery which runs round the inside of the dome, and to which the visitor may ascend by neat cast-iron spiral stairs. The plans from which the work has been executed, were prepared by Mr. Matheson, of her Majesty's Works; and Sir B. Hall, the late chief of that department, took a warm interest in its progress.

The palm-house is now situated close on the north-west boundary of the garden, but we are glad to learn that an addition of two acres and a-half of ground, included in the estimates by Sir B. Hall last year, will be made to that side of the Garden. It will be impossible, however, to lay out this additional plot without an increased grant from the Government.

The present annual allowance of £1,000 is inadequate to support the Garden; and we believe a representation has been made to Government to that effect. When it is considered that about two hundred students receive instruction in botany at the Gardens every session, and that the public visit it to the number of forty thousand annually, the propriety of maintaining it in full efficiency is very evident.



NEW PALM-HOUSE, EDINBURGH.

THE "NIGHT CHARGES" GOING TO MARLBOROUGH STREET.

We have all heard of Via Delorsa, the Appian Way, the Valley of the Shadow, the Bridge of Sighs, the Road to Ruin, the *facilis descensus Avernus*, and that perilous hill which, according to local and nursery tradition, Jack and Gill went up in order to fetch a pail of water. We have read of the Passionate Pilgrim, the Seven Poor Travellers, and the Seven Wise Men of Gotham, who went to sea in a bowl, and the gentleman from the lunar districts who asked in a casual way the topographical direction of knowledge. We have heard how Agag went to

his death "mincing"; how the haunted phantoms of the night were seen to enter into a quagmire, scratched out with a broom, the victim of partiality and justice went up Holborn Hill plying of Jack Ketch a lun, en route for Tyne; we may observe that the Atlantic telegraph industry unite a point of performing on the form of that "Jordan road to travel," but many of the road have alluded, and pain grimeges, we have there cannot be, we the dolorous procession of wo-begone travellers which sets forth every Sunday, at ten o'clock, from the gloomy freestone hall "round room" at its feet, and anciently St. James's Watch-house, which, under the guard of police constables, avoid roughshaws, and skulk by streets, to the police Marlborough Street, where that terrible first-floor, austere Mr. Hardwicke, the flexible Mr. Bingham—by a paper reporters known as "magistrates," by constables dressed as "your washup officers generally designated" pendaries," by law "esqu" and by creation "justice" Majesty's commission of peace," but by the wicked the immoral shudderingly denoted "beaks."

Look on this procession of "night charges." Look on the tremble. Small boys who have just read the "Illustrated Times" through news-vendor windows (twopence-halfpenny a way of conscience money) be immediately sent to this office consider the juveniles whom the relenting alguazils are convey to the tribunal of justice, and abstain from finding other people's



CONDUCTING THE NIGHT CHARGES TO THE MARLBOROUGH STREET POLICE-COURT.

luck, with neckscarf twisted like a halter, with face besmudged, with battered hat and ruined collar, and moustache dank and drooping. He with the umbrella, and he with the hang-dog face, were, perchance, only yesterday, spruce dandies who dined at the Alhambra and went half-price to the play. Ponder on their lamentable condition, paraded through the streets by alphabetical guards, exposed to the jeers and taunts of an irreverent crowd, and to the derisive scrutiny even of town-made dogs of dissipated appearance. Think on this, and reform your tailor's and tavern bills; leave the key-bugle, and go sit at the feet of John B. Gough!

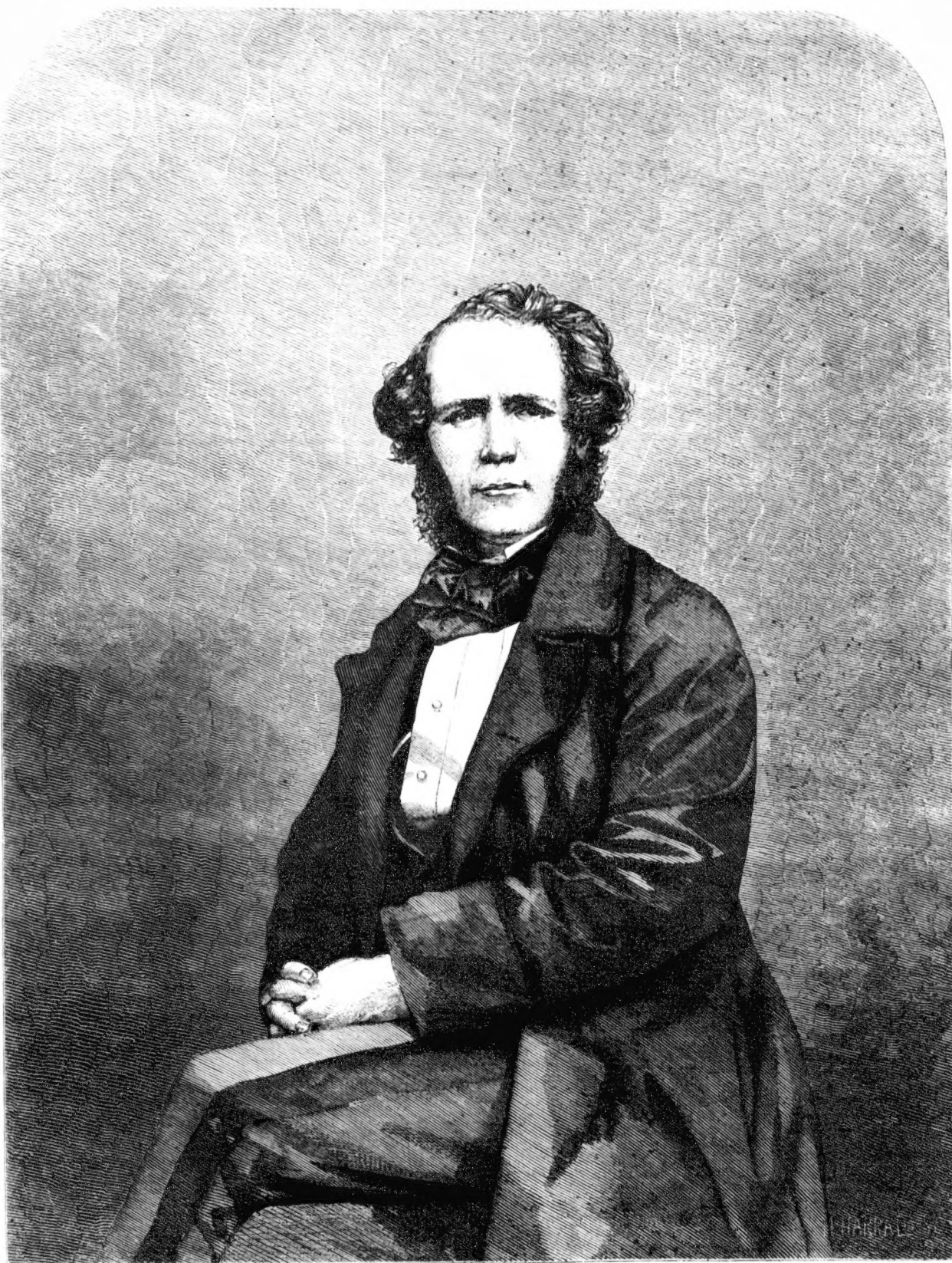
We may look at the majority of these "night-charges" with the eye of censure; yet we must needs wipe that same eye on the sleeve of pity and compassion when we see figuring in the procession among the felons and the brawlers, wretched, forlorn, half-clad women, and gaunt, wan, starved-out agricultural labourers, who have been on the previous night refused food and shelter at the gates of the cruel workhouses, and who are charged with being "destitute," which they are in God's own truth, but nothing more. We may question too the policy and the humanity of this diurnal parade of quasi-criminals through the over-crowded streets of the metropolis. At Bow Street the night-charges have but to cross the road; at Southwark the station is in the immediate vicinity of the court; at Liverpool the accused are removed in the gray of the morning, and in vans, from the different lock-ups to the central tribunal. We have abolished the pillory, the stocks, the cart's-tail, and it seems both stupid and barbarous to drag these unhappy creatures about the purlieus of Piccadilly and Regent Street, for all the world—minus the chain and brooms—like the malefactors who sweep the streets of continental towns.

WILLIAM POWELL FRITH, R.A.

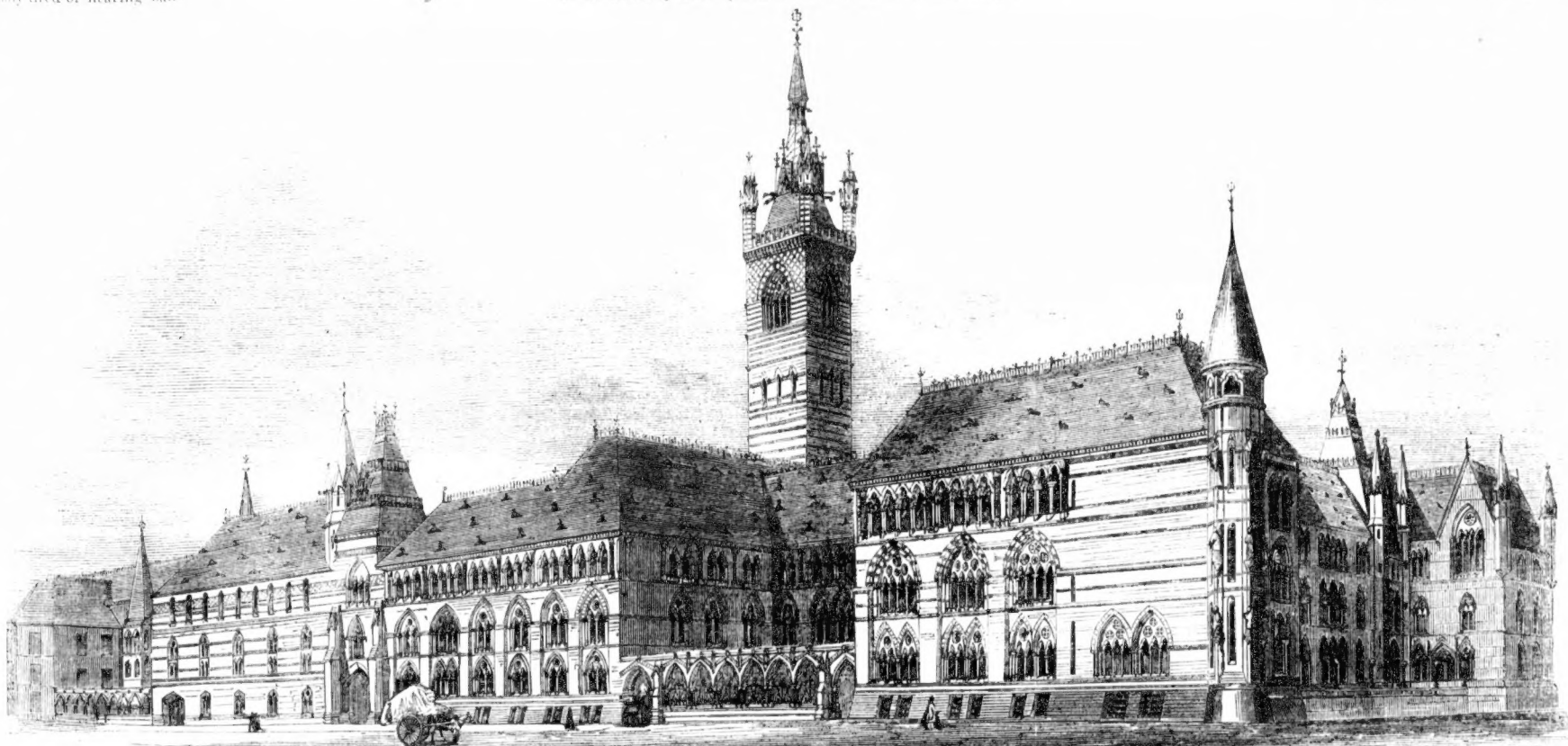
Few things bear out more strongly the truth of the aphorism, paraphrased with unconscious wisdom by Mrs. Malaprop, that "comparisons are odious," otherwise odious than the parrot-like tendency of this age to institute parallels between the most eminent professors of art and literature and the famous poets and painters of a past age. We are really tired of hearing bab-

bling critics call Dickens the Goldsmith, and Thackeray the Fielding of the age; of listening to comparisons between Etty and Titian, between Landseer and Snyders, between Tennyson and Petrarch. It is right we know to take all things *cum grano salis*, with a grain of salt; and Solomon tells us that there is nothing new under the sun. Archimedes had very probably engineering notions frequently identical with those entertained and carried out by Stephenson and Brunel; and Professor Wheatstone and Sir David Brewster may have had prototypes among the ancient Egyptians or the ancient Peruvians—or under the dynasty of the pre-Adamite sultans, for aught we know; but it is an insult to the intellect and the progress of the age stupidly and blindly to persist in comparing one clever man to another in the age that has gone before, simply because he works, and works well, in the same grooves of arts or of letters. There are passages in "Vanity Fair" that equal, and passages that surpass, "Aurelia" and "Tom Jones;" there are essays in the "Sketches by Boz" that might be placed side by side with "The Citizen of the World;" and the "Christmas Carol" is an exquisite pendant to the "Vicar of Wakefield;" Petrarch would have been proud of many a line of "In Memoriam;" but does this, should this, detract from the intrinsic originality of those who created Pickwick and Becky Sharp, who wrote "Ring out, wild bells?" We think not.

Mr. W. P. Frith has no lack just now of indiscreet and ignorant admirers to tell him that in his admirable picture of the "Derby Day," he has equalled or rivalled a certain great dead painter of English social life, William Hogarth. The comparison adds not one spray of plumage to Mr. Frith's crested helm, and is as inapplicable as it is ill-timed. Mr. Frith can be what he is, one of the most charming of modern painters, exuberantly gifted, accomplished, facile in drawing, graceful in composition, brilliant in colour, almost unrivalled in the power of expressing bustling life-like movement; he can be a genuine English master, and one whose works may be accepted as admirable and spiritual reflexes of modern life; but what has he to do with the square-built cynic of Leicester Fields, who dwelt at the sign of the "Golden Head," and was sergeant-painter to the King? To



W. P. FRITH, R.A.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY R. HOWLETT.)



DESIGN FOR FOREIGN OFFICE.—(J. E. STREET, ARCHITECT.)—PREMIUM, £100.

compare the lively, genial, kindly works of Mr. Frith to the scathing denunciations of vice, the withering satires upon folly, which emanated from the pencil of William Hogarth, is as inconsistent as to compare Mr. Tom Taylor's "Victims" with the "Beggars' Opera."

In pursuance with our plan of giving brief biographies of the most distinguished artists of the time, we place second on our list the eminent man whose portrait graces this page.

William Powell Frith first saw the light at Harrogate, in Yorkshire, in 1820. Of the course and direction of his early studies, or of those "early struggles" with which the opening career of most of our famous painters has been beset, we have not been able to learn much; but he became a contributor to the exhibition of the Royal Academy at the early age of twenty; and in 1840 his picture of "Malvolio before the Countess Olivia" gained a large measure of praise. His next great success was five years later, when his "Village Pastor," the scene drawn from Goldsmith, raised him, not only into notice, but to fame. He had previously exhibited with much applause a variety of works evincing steady progress, and among which we may mention "The Parting Interview of Leicester and the Countess Amy," a scene from the "Vicar of Wakefield" (that Castalian stream of English painters), "My Wife would bid both stand up to see which was the tallest;" a capital scene from the "Merry Wives of Windsor," and a picture of "John Knox and Mary Queen of Scots." His "Village Pastor," however, in 1845, gained him so much favour, as well among his profession as with the public, that he was elected an Associate of the Royal Academy. In 1846 he painted a companion picture, "The Return from Labour," and a graphically humorous episode from the "Bourgeois Gentilhomme." His "English Merry-making a Hundred Years Ago," exhibited in 1847, full as it was of picturesque beauty and graphic unforced humour, gained him an appreciable increase in renown and in position. Close on the heels of this (at least, as close as the annual exhibition of the Academy would permit) followed "The Peasant Girl Accused of Witchcraft" (1848); the "Coming of Age" (1849), a delightful tableau of Elizabethan manners, and which has since been excellently engraved; "Sambo and the Duchess" (1850); "Hogarth at Calais" (1851); and "Pope Making Love to Lady Wortley Montague" (1852), a work possessing great merit, as much for its humorous conception as for its clever execution, and which was exhibited among the Manchester Art Treasures. In 1853 Mr. Frith was elected a Royal Academician. In 1854, a picture painted with consummate ability, "Life at the Sea-side," and in its crowded animation a worthy forerunner of the "Derby Day," showed that Mr. Frith was determined to recur no more to thread-bare subjects, drawn from half-read novels, but to fill his portfolio with sketches of the real men and women of the time. And in this his picture of the "Derby Day," exhibited this year, attests that he has been eminently successful. We may add, for the information of our fair readers, that Mr. Frith is married, and has a youthful family.

OPERA, CONCERTS, AND NEW MUSIC.

DON GIOVANNI, produced at Her Majesty's Theatre for the first time this season on Monday last, exhibited Mdlle. Titiens in a fresh part, that of Donna Anna. The new singer, now the honour and glory of Mr. Lumley's Theatre, is even more admirable in this *role* than in that of Valentine in the "Huguenots." Of course, her declamatory passages are the best, but there is not a phrase in the part of Donna Anna that Mdlle. Titiens does not give with true romantic expression, and that she does not sing like the consummate artist which she is. We shall speak of Mdlle. Titiens' performance again when this opera is repeated.

The experiment of a third Italian Opera is a daring one, but it is, nevertheless, being made at Drury Lane Theatre, where so many daring things have been attempted. Italian opera for the people will not succeed any more than champagne at sixpence a glass, or pine-apple at a penny a slice have succeeded. To be sure, the pine-apple is only West India pine-apple—indeed, what else can be given for the money? And in the case of the Drury Lane speculation, what but West India—that is to say, sham—Italian operas can be given for four shillings to the boxes, two shillings to the pit, and sixpence to the gallery? We should have been delighted to discover on Monday evening last that our pre-conceived opinions (every one who thinks and judges has prejudices, only not unchangeable ones) on the subject of cheap Italian Opera were erroneous, and, consequently, that all the managers of Italian Operas in London had been ruining themselves during the last forty years "without sufficient cause." But no; the prices of Italian artists are fixed as fixed stars, and almost as high; while there is an evident limit to the number of the audience. If the audience could be increased almost to infinity, like the subscribers to a newspaper, then cheap Italian Operas might prosper; but as it is, there is no chance for them.

In the meanwhile, a coal-heaver may have the "Trovatore" for sixpence, though we must say, that if we were a coal-heaver, and had sixpence to spare, we should certainly invest it in something more profitable than a hearing of Verdi's opera as it is heard at Drury Lane. What a terrible thing it is that the laws of political economy apply even to Art! The manager of operatic Drury Lane does not exactly "buy in the cheapest market and sell in the dearest," but, being unable to sell in the dearest, or even in one that is moderately dear, he is, of course, obliged to buy—that is to say, to engage—in the cheapest he can find. Hence, singers who have methods, but who have long since lost their voices—singers who have voices without methods, and singers who have neither method nor voice, and who have no more right to be called singers at all than Mr. Carlyle's "needlewomen" have to be called astronomers.

In the "Trovatore" the part of the tenor is taken by Mr. Charles Braham. This gentleman is the "Carlo Braham" of Her Majesty's Theatre, and it was said when he appeared at that establishment two years since, that he had gained a great reputation in Italy. It is known that he failed to sustain this reputation in England, and, in our opinion, Mr. Charles Braham is inferior as a singer now than he was eight or nine years since, when he was in the habit of appearing at the Princess's Theatre in Flotow's "Léoline" and other operas, whose success depended almost entirely on the execution of the ballads. His most successful performance on Monday night was in the *adante* of "Di quella pira," which was vehemently encoored; and he really sang with considerable taste the commencement of his solo ("O che la morte") in the "Miserere" scene; but unfortunately Mr. Braham is unable to hold out his loud notes, which sometimes change nearly a quarter of a tone while he is uttering them, and when the "Miserere" was repeated he indulged in some "variations" of a very peculiar style—every note varying in a most remarkable manner from its proper pitch.

Madame Bernardi, who plays Azucena, is a mezzo-soprano without high notes, or a contralto with low ones. From the *timbre* of the lady's voice, we should say that she must be a native of France—in other words, her notes are not very melodious. As for method, she has one which is very peculiar, and in its way commendable. Sometimes she omits to sing altogether. Of this we cannot complain.

Madame Salvini Donatelli, the soprano, has been a great singer, and is still a great artist. She sings with taste and feeling, and would be entitled to every commendation but for her disastrous habit of introducing ornaments where they are not only not needed, but are absolutely at variance with the signification of the music they are intended to "adorn." But Madame Salvini is an artist of the first class, and if there were many—if there were even three or four such vocalists in the Drury Lane troupe, nothing, not even the orchestra, could interfere with its success.

Badioli, the baritone, is also an admirable artist, and also has only the remains of a voice. He made his reputation in the continental theatres and in those of the United States many years since, but he still preserves taste, feeling, and an excellent method, that is to say, more than enough to ensure his success. He sang the popular "Il Balen" on Monday night with great effect, and the duets of the fourth act, for the baritone and soprano, were by far the best executed pieces in the opera. We must add that the theatre was crowded, and that the audience were enthusiastic in their applause.

On Monday last Mdlle. Clauss (now Madame Szarvady) gave the first of a series of *matinees musicales* at Willis' Rooms. The first part consisted of Mendelssohn's trio in C minor, in which the heroine of the occasion was accompanied by Sainton and Platt; and of a fantasia and fugue by Bach. Throughout the second part Madame Szarvady appeared as a soloist. Her great triumph was her performance of Beethoven's sonata in G, in which she displayed the high intelligence and that poetical feeling which the amateurs of London have lost no opportunity of applauding during the last five or six years—that is to say ever since the first appearance of Mademoiselle Clauss among us. The second part consisted of two pieces by Heller, two by Chopin—the musical poet whose poetry is so often "morbidly sweet" in the literal meaning of the word—and of a worthless gallop by Alken. The next *matinee* of this admirable pianist is fixed for Monday, May 24.

A flock of charity children assembled a week since at the Crystal Palace, to the number of five thousand, and to the tune of the Old Hundredth—which commenced the concert. The children were directed, in groups, by the teachers of the national and endowed schools of London and its vicinity, and *en masse*, by Mr. G. W. Martin—the organist being Mr. Brownsmith. The success of the *fete* was partly musical, partly humanitarian. The young choristers sang their sacred songs very beautifully, but many of the thousands who were present evidently felt quite as much pleasure in seeing the happy little children as in hearing their voices. Between the parts of the concert the Band of the Royal Military Asylum performed, and altogether this juvenile festival was a great success.

The first set of a series of songs, published both separately and together, under the collective title of the "Bridal Album," has just appeared. Of the twelve songs, which are signed by the first composers of the day (Balfé, Wallace, Macfarren, Silas, &c.), nine have illustrated wrappers by Konny Meadows, whose name appears now for the first time on a musical title page. The charming design on the cover of the "Album" is by the same artist, who will render a true service to song-writers if he continues to illustrate their productions. Music has hitherto been the Cinderella of the sister arts. The most favoured of the three is painting—which is very nearly as good as nobility. Then comes literature, which unfortunately cannot be appreciated to any great extent without a certain amount of thought; and last of all lays music, whose beauties, so far from being evident to every casual observer, are only discernible to those who have made that art their special study. Now, in the present day, when every one reads, and most persons, who have any pretensions to culture, visit the picture exhibitions of the metropolis, scarcely one man in a thousand (professional artists apart) regards music as an art. It is only by this general disesteem of music as an intellectual study that we can explain the fact of its being usually married, not to "immortal verse," but to the most perishable doggerel that ever was penned. Nevertheless, the lines to which our best composers are usually condemned to set their melodies are almost beautiful by the side of the rapid stupidities with which certain lithographic artists illustrate them—artists who can perhaps copy with some degree of accuracy, but who are quite destitute of invention, and whose colouring is only worthy of school-boys, or of adult sign painters. Accordingly, the appearance of Mr. Konny Meadows—the fanciful and poetic illustrator of Shakespeare and of Milton—as a designer of title-pages for songs, is a hopeful sign, which musicians should welcome as they would welcome the advent of a genuine poet who would write "words for music."

Mr. Balfé, to speak of the musical contents of the "Album," contributes the "Ball-Room Belle," (the words by G. P. Morris, the American song-writer), and a very effective part-song without accompaniment; Mr. Wallace has a bold and easily retainable melody, entitled "The Loved One who waits us at Home;" Mr. Macfarren, a simple characteristic air called "The Rustic Maid;" Mr. Glover, a pleasing duet in mazurka measure, "Beautiful Moonlight." Perhaps the best-written air in this collection is the "Orange Blossom" by Mr. Silas, one of the most accomplished musicians of the day; and the words of Mr. George Hodder (who also supplies Wallace, Macfarren, and Mori with easy and appropriate verse) are among the happiest he has produced. The other compositions are by Mr. Land (whose pretty melody, "Woodland Fairies," has suggested to Mr. Meadows one of that artist's most fanciful designs), Mr. Linley, Mr. Millard, and Mr., Monsieur, or Herr Enderssohn.

LAW AND CRIME.

A LAW must indeed be had when the very judges employed to administer it complain—on the one hand of its inefficiency, and on the other of its injustice. Our Insolvent Court system happens just at present to be in this predicament. Some time since a man, describing himself under the convenient appellation of "commission agent," applied to the Court for relief. He obtained his "interim order" upon the ground that his debts were under £300. At the hearing of his case, last week, it was proved that he had committed fraud—that his schedule was willfully false—and that his debts exceeded £300. When the insolvent saw the turn the matter was taking, he absconded from the Court, which had no power to order his detention, although he had previously been arrested and discharged upon the order of the Court, pending his hearing. Mr. Commissioner Murphy admitted the defect in the law, which prevented him from detaining the prisoner, to be a serious one. On the next day an old man, who had been seven years in prison, applied for his discharge to Mr. Commissioner Phillips. He alleged that having brought an action for the seduction of his daughter against the Honourable Granville Berkeley, he had been "sold" by his own attorney, and imprisoned for the defendant's costs of the suit. That the keeper of the jail had written to the Honourable Granville Berkeley to intercede for a discharge, and had received in reply a direction to "mind his own business." It must be borne in mind that this statement was completely one-sided, and might, or not, be true. Mr. Commissioner Phillips could see nothing of hardship in the case, "as the insolvent could have petitioned when first taken to prison. The public were galled by such statements when a man chose to stay in prison." But perhaps the poor old man had not the money wherewith to fee an attorney, and could not raise it until the length of his imprisonment rendered him an object of charitable commiseration. However, this Court, so powerless to order the detention of a proved fraudulent debtor, was equally impotent to act upon the uncontradicted statement of this miserable prisoner until the period of his final order, which cannot be obtained for some weeks to come, and therefore in the meantime he is remitted to jail.

Two young men were last week fined for hunting after game upon Wimbledon Common. The offence was proved by a man actually paid by his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge to preserve the vitality of the abundant birds and beasts of chase to be found in that sporting locality. No wonder that his Royal Highness costs the country a round sum, if obliged to employ his money in such useful purposes as the preservation of game upon Wimbledon Common!

Two children, aged respectively nine and ten, were found by the police huddled up in a niche which had once been the fire-place of a house, since pulled down. Their nightly covering consisted of a large putrescent dog, and their daily food was such stale fish as the hawkers threw away among the ruins. The constable took them to their father, who, although in respectable circumstances, refused to admit them, upon the ground that one of them had been guilty of some misconduct. Thence they were taken to St. Pancras' Workhouse, where the master also refused them admittance, saying it was "mere child's play" to be always bringing them there! With such an idea of child's play, how delightful must be the sway of this master to the juvenile paupers of St. Pancras! The constable, more humane than the parent or the master, took the children to the station and gave them food and shelter. The magistrate called the father before him, and directed that he should maintain his children, or that the parish should do so at his expense. On the same day (Saturday last) a *ruler nisi* for a *mandamus* was obtained against the directors of the poor of the same parish, St. Pancras. They had made certain alterations in the workhouse, and the Poor Law Board, which occasionally exercises a

salutary control over the proceedings of parochial boards, appointed a surveyor to inspect the alterations and take the dimensions. He met in defiance of all statutes and regulations to the contrary, and hence a successful application to the Queen's Bench for a rule for a *mandamus* to bring them to such reason as parochial bodies are made accountable to. It is a pity the Poor Law Board has not interfered earlier in these matters. The parishioners of Westminster, who have been spared the expense of that extraordinary construction, are tempted to serve as a warning, at the end of York Street, the worthy of a visit, as displaying the curious way in which a piece of ground can be built over with the worst possible architectural effect, with the greatest possible number of small angles, and with the smallest convenience to its inmates. It is, without exaggeration, one of the most curious sights to be seen near the metropolis. It is said that at least a dozen staircases in the interior have been obliged to be blocked up as useless. And yet the people who do this kind of thing, whose ludicrous incapacity is the most amusing point about them, are just the very first to cry out against interference!

The "Daily Telegraph" of Monday last contains on one page a report of the conviction of an old woman, aged 74, who was sent by Mr. Dayman to prison for seven days, for forging, she being an old-fashioned teller. On another page, among the advertisements, our contemporary publishes the following:—

"THE FORTUNE TELLER.—Any person wishing to have their future life revealed to them correctly, should send their name, sex, and date of birth, to Mr. Vernon, whose prophecies never fail. 255, Blackfriars Road, London, E."

An enormous sum, as may be remembered, has been charged in six years' estimates for compensation to the proctors, for their supposed losses under the new Probate and Matrimonial Causes Acts. Will some liberal member have the kindness to look into this matter? We think he will find that the amount of damage to the proctors by the new Acts has been the subject of some misrepresentation, or, at least, misapprehension. The principal source of the income of the proctors, as it arises from their practice in the Admiralty Court, and is consequently untouched by the new statutes. A clause expressly enables them to continue in their peculiar line, as agents for solicitors, and in this way most of them find good employment even now. Beyond this, the new Acts constitute them all attorneys and solicitors, which they were not before, and thereby endows them with a lucrative profession in the place of the one attacked by inevitable progression.

A very curious paragraph, respecting Thomas Allsop, accused of participation in the late conspiracy, has been copied into one or two morning papers from a New York journal. It states that the proof of Allsop's complicity as exhibited in the evidence taken against Dr. Bernard, and the fact of the indictment having been found against him, will be sufficient to ground a demand by England upon the United States for his delivery under the "Extraordinary Treaty."

The following ingenious fraud was lately attempted upon the South-Western Railway Company. A passenger from Basingstoke, intending to go to London, took a ticket only for Winchester, a station which he passed upon the road. On arriving at Kingston, near London, the traveller alighted, ran to the ticket office, and took a ticket to London, of course paying only the fare from Kingston. His manner attracted attention, and the scheme was discovered. He was taken into custody. Mr. Elliott, the magistrate who heard the case, fixed the prisoner twenty shillings, in addition to the difference of fare, and eleven shillings expenses.

MURDER AT HALIFAX.

JAMES JACOBS, was employed as a compositor in the office of the "Halifax Guardian."—William Dawson was an apprentice in the same establishment. On Wednesday week the men returned from dinner, as usual, at two o'clock. Balfé resuming work in the jobbing-office, (where Jacobs and two or three other men were at work), Dawson took up a pair of dumb-bells, with which the men and boys practised occasionally. But almost immediately after taking up the bells, Dawson directed them with great violence at the head of Jacobs, giving him a succession of terrible blows, and laying him prostrate on the ground. The other men, horrified at the spectacle, ran into the news-office; and the murderer, after bolting the jobbing-office door, despatched his victim in the most cruel manner, beating him with a large iron lever of the screw press, and hacking at his head with a hatchet. During this time the men in the office repeatedly came to the door, in which there was a chink, which enabled them to see into the room. When the men made an attempt to force the door (which they seem to have done in a very doubtful manner) Dawson left his victim, and rushed toward it, upon which the people outside ran away. This was several times repeated. Presently, however, Dawson came out unarmed, and then he was arrested.

At this time, and at the inquest subsequently held, Dawson, who is a tall, powerful young man, evinced unmistakable symptoms of madness. A surgeon deposed that the prisoner had been under his treatment, more or less, for some time, and fancied himself labouring under ailments which had no existence, save in his own imagination. He had told Dawson's parents that the youth was suffering from an unsound mind. When the surgeon mentioned one of Dawson's fancied maladies, the demented man burst into an ungovernable fit of rage, flung out his arms, and howled with many oaths, "Why did he mention that?" The jury and the spectators made for the door. The furious man dashed among them, bellowing and cursing. With the greatest difficulty he was secured by about half-a-dozen policemen, and removed.

The jury, after a short consultation, returned a verdict of "Wilful Murder" against Dawson. They abstained from passing any opinion as to his mental condition.

From only one circumstance would it appear that this butchery had been premeditated by the accused. The hatchet had been left by the errand-boy in the coal cellar, and Dawson seems to have removed it to the jobbing-office. On Friday the prisoner was conveyed from Halifax to York Castle. During the last two or three years he has, it is reported, read many "free thought" publications; and, like his father, has become that most unfortunate man, "a thorough sceptic."

When Dawson was captured, he said, "There is one point I have missed." Bates asked what it was, and he replied, "In not having taken his (the deceased's) head off, and thrown it out of the window."

UNDISGUISED MURDER.

A RESPECTABLE FURRIER, named William Price, residing at Cem-y-afon farm, in the parish of Lliror, just over the Herefordshire boundary, was murdered in broad daylight, on Tuesday week, by a young carpenter, named Burton, who lived in the vicinity, and who had been paying his address to his eldest daughter against her father's wish. Young Burton and the deceased happened to meet on the road leading from Upper Calvela to Betws, at no great distance from Mr. Price's residence; a quarrel ensued between them, and Mr. Price, in his anger, threatened to knock Burton's head off with a stick he had in his hand. They separated, going different ways; but Burton had not proceeded far before he met with his father, to whom he related what had occurred between him and Mr. Price. Both father and son then went in search of the deceased, and overtook him on the road. A quarrel again occurred, and blows followed, one of which killed Price. A labourer, whom the Burtons had met, was told by them that they had killed Mr. Price, and that he had better go and see about it. The murderous blow is said to have been given by the young man with a cestrum, which he was carrying at the time. Both father and son are in custody. The murdered man was conveyed to his home, whence, within the last fortnight, have issued the corpses of three of his children.

SUSPECTED MURDER.

THE body of a man, frightfully mutilated, was discovered on Tuesday night in the Regent's Canal, within a short distance of the principal entrance of Victoria Park. The head of the deceased was cut off from the upper part of the chest, and was only held on by the intertments at the back of the neck. The skull was fractured, both arms were broken, both shoulder joints dislocated, and the body downwards was covered with contusions and lacerations. The body was examined by Mr. Edward Seppings, a surgeon, who is of opinion that some of the injuries were received before death. The deceased is identified as John Turner, aged fifty-two, of Richard Street, Commercial Road East. He had been missing from his home a week.

ATTEMPT TO MURDER AN OFFICER ON SHIPBOARD.—A sailor named Reed was charged before the Liverpool magistrates with attempting to murder the first mate of the American ship Houghton, recently arrived at Liverpool from New Orleans. The outrage took place on the voyage to Liverpool; Reed, after some quarrel with the mate, having stabbed him furiously in the neck with a knife. The prisoner was committed until the American authorities could deal with him.

POLICE.

THE BRACKET THEFT FROM MESSRS. HUNT AND ROSS.—At Marylebone Police-court, on Tuesday last, Louise Montel, the woman charged with the above robbery under circumstances already detailed in these columns, was fully committed for trial. On her appearance at the Central Criminal Court, she was sentenced to six years' penal servitude.

A METROPOLITAN NUISANCE.—Patrick McCarthy, 18, was charged with carrying in the street two boards, on which were placards announcing a tradesman's business. A police-constable said he saw the prisoner carrying the boards along High Street, Borough. He had one in front and one behind. Witness went up to him and told him it was unlawful for him to carry any board in the public streets. The prisoner went away, and about half an hour after witness saw him again with the boards, when he told him his master had sent him, and he was not to mind the police. Witness then took him into custody.

The magistrate asked him under what Act of Parliament he did that? Inspector Moore here referred to 16 and 17 Vic., cap. 35, sec. 16, the Hackney Carriage Act, which made it lawful for constables to prevent all obstructions; and the Police Act gave them the power to apprehend all porters carrying boards or otherwise obstructing the public streets.

The magistrate said that it must be known that this was an infringement of the law, but discharged defendant with a caution.

POST OFFICE ROBBRIES.—A sub-sorter in the General Post Office, named Charles Randall, and who has been twenty years in the service, was charged with stealing gold watches, bank notes, and other property and money from the office letters. The prisoner was detected by Smith, the general constable, in the act of abstracting a packet from a heap which he was engaged in weighing. It was found to contain a gold watch in a morocco case, and was addressed to Mr. A. B. Savory, of Cornhill. At the prisoner's lodgings were found six other gold and silver watches in similar cases, besides a number of valuable rings, a gold chain, fourteen false teeth (in a case), twenty-eight £5 notes, two £10 notes, about £52 in gold, and also a gold watch worth £10.

Mr. Faneck, the Post Office solicitor, applied for a warrant to ascertain the owners of the property, if possible. Mr. Jardine remanded the prisoner accordingly.

HEAVY PENALTY FOR SMUGGLING.—Amelia Valentine, an Englishwoman, the wife of a German now on the Continent, was brought up at the Thames Police-court, to answer a Custom-house information, which charged her with smuggling 18lbs. of cigars.

The prisoner was a passenger by the Rotterdam steamer to St. Katherine's Wharf, and, on a Custom-house officer searching her luggage, he discovered a false bottom in one of her boxes, and between that and the real bottom of the box the officer discovered 18lbs. of cigars. The duty on the cigars, which were of foreign manufacture, was 9s. 6d.

Mr. Charles Young (for the defendant) said he could not offer any defence that could be made available to that court, and must petition the Commissioners of Customs for a remission or mitigation of the penalty. The defendant had unfortunately married a German, who took away all her property, left her, and went to Rotterdam. He then invited her to meet him there, obtained all the money she had, and then sent her home again. The boxes were put on board the steamer three days before Mrs. Valentine embarked. She did not know what was in them, and was surprised when the officer took her into custody on the charge of smuggling.

Mr. Yardley said he had no alternative but to convict the prisoner, who had pleaded guilty; and he must sentence her to pay a fine of £100 to the Queen, and in default of payment to be imprisoned for six months. Of course the prisoner's solicitor could apply to the Board of Customs for a mitigation of the penalty, and make any representations he thought proper.

Mrs. Valentine, who sobbed loudly, was meanwhile sent to prison.

FRAUD.—Messrs. Birtow and Hammond, wholesale stationers, of 72, Bishopsgate Street, City, who were committed for trial, last week, upon the charge of forging and uttering five bills of exchange of the total value of about £230, were brought up at Guildhall for further examination, relative to two charges of conspiracy to obtain goods to the value of about £150, with intent to defraud Messrs. Scheideel and Co., of Watling Street, and Messrs. Fouldriner and Co., of Sherborne Lane.

The evidence went to show that the prisoners obtained large quantities of goods under the pretence that they were for export, and without paying ready cash for them, the property being immediately pawned. The prisoners were committed for trial.

MONEY OPERATIONS OF THE WEEK.

Of late, some large parcels of money stock have been absorbed by the public, and prices of national stocks have assumed a high range; but the possibility of a government deficit in both houses of Parliament has checked speculative purchasers for a time, and consols for the account, which at one time were 6 1/2 at 9 1/2, have this week receded to 9 1/2. Even this latter price is a very high one, because we must bear in mind that the trade and commerce of the country are steadily improving, and that there is more disposition shown to ship bullion to various quarters. As yet, however, the exports have not been large, and at the present time there is a large supply of gold, over one million sterling, on passage from Australia; still the period seems to have arrived at which very few additions will be made to the stock of bullion in the Bank of England, and we may safely venture to state that we have experienced the worst effects of the late panic in the commercial world. Transactions have taken place in consols for transfer at 9 1/2, the reduced at 9 1/2, the new 3 per cents, 94 1/2, in Long Annuities, 1855, 187, Exchequer bills have marked 25 1/2 at 43 1/2; India Bonds, 21s. to 24s. per cent. Bank stock has been 22 1/2 to 23 1/2; India Stock, for account, 2 1/2; and India Loan Scrip, 104.

The Exchequer Bonds falling due on Saturday have been paid off. The Bank holds one million, and the other nation has been redeemed out of the public Exchequer. In the present market, the supply of money has rather increased; nevertheless the demand has rather improved, at 2 1/2 to 2 1/2 per cent. for first-class bills.

Peruvian stock, owing to the Government having increased the sinking fund, has been active, and prices have, consequently, improved to some extent. The 4 1/2 per cents having touched 87 1/2, and the 3 per cents, 62. All other foreign securities have been very firm prices.

Joint-stock bank shares have sold slowly, and very few transactions have been reported in miscellaneous stocks.

In the railway share market, the dealings have not increased, and in some instances, the quotations have had a downward tendency. The total "calls" for the present month amount to about £200,000.

METROPOLITAN MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—The present week's arrivals of English wheat up to our market have been very moderate; nevertheless, the demand for all kinds has ruled heavy, and, in some instances, prices have given way 1s. per quarter. Foreign wheat, the imports of which have increased, has sold slowly at last week's currency. The barley trade has been quiet, and grinding qualities have ruled a shade in favour of buyers. Fine malt has sold steadily, other kinds slowly, on former terms. Owing to a large influx from the Continent, the oat trade has ruled heavy, at 1s. per quarter less money. Both beans and peas have sold at full quotations; but four must be a dull inquiry, and country qualities have gone rather cheaper.

GRAIN CURRENTS.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, Red, 39s. to 40s., ditto, White, 41s. to 42s.; Norfolk and Lincoln, Red, 38s. to 40s., ditto, White, 39s. to 41s.; Grindling Barley, 26s. to 30s.; Distilling, 31s. to 34s.; Malt, 35s. to 40s.; Peas, 35s. to 47s.; Feeding, 31s. to 34s.; Potatoes, 24s. to 31s.; Turnips, 36s. to 40s.; Peas, 40s. to 43s.; Maple, 42s. to 44s.; Boilers, 41s. to 42s. per quarter. Town-made Flour, 38s. to 40s. Town House-holds, 37s. to 38s.; Country Maize, 29s. to 35s. per 280lbs.

CATTLE.—The supplies of beasts have been seasonably good, and the demand for all kinds has ruled heavy, at a decline in value of 2s. per 80lbs. Sheep and lambs have moved off steadily, at full quotations, but calves have given way 1d. per 80lbs. In the value of pigs, scarcely any change has taken place. Beef, from 5s. to

4s. 4d.; mutton, 3s. 2d. to 4s. 6d.; lamb, 5s. to 7s.; veal, 4s. to 5s. 6d.; pork, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 4d.; poultry, as the market. NEWCASTLE AND LIVERPOOL.—Each kind of meat has been in moderate supply and fair request, at full quotations. Beef from 2s. 10d. to 3s. 4d.; mutton, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 1d.; lamb, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; veal, 4s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; pork, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 4d.; poultry, as the market. LONDON.—The market is very quiet, and scarcely any change has taken place. Foreign supplies, all at full quotations. Re-refined goods, the supply of which is moderate, are steady, at 55s. for low quality, and 58s. to 59s. 6d. per cwt. for wet lumps. The stock of sugar in London is 45,000 tons, against 39,000 tons last year.

COFFEES.—Good raw sugars are in moderate request, at about stationery prices. Low and inferior qualities move off slowly, on rather easy terms. Foreign sugars, all at full quotations. Re-refined goods, the supply of which is moderate, are steady, at 55s. for low quality, and 58s. to 59s. 6d. per cwt. for wet lumps. The stock of sugar in London is 45,000 tons, against 39,000 tons last year.

TEA.—Our market is fairly supplied with most kinds of coffee, and the trade generally is steady, at fully late week's quotations. Cocoa.—This article rules about stationary, and the demand is wholly confined to small parcels.

RICE.—There is an immense demand for this article, and prices generally are well supported. The stock is now 80,000 tons, against 57,000 tons last year.

PROVISIONS.—Fine butters are firm in price, with a fair inquiry. Inferior qualities are dull. Bacon is selling at fully late advance. Other provisions rule about stationary.

COTTON.—Our market generally is very firm, and a good business is doing in it at extreme rates.

HEMP AND FLAX.—Hemp is held at full quotations, but the demand for it is very inactive. In the value of flax, we have no chance to notice.

WOOL.—The public sales are still progressing slowly, at the opening declined 1d. to 2d. per lb.

SPICES.—There is a fair demand for rice, at full quotations. Demerara sugar, quoted at 2s. 1d. to 2s. 1 1/2 d.; Java sugar, 1s. 10d. to 1s. 11d.; and East India sugar, 1s. 10d. to 1s. 11d. Manufactured goods move off steadily, at fully late week's quotations.

METALS.—No change in iron has been reported. Tin is doing well. Copper is somewhat better. Lead is doing well. Zinc is doing well. Brass is doing well. Iron plates and other metals are doing well.

SALES.—Prices are well supported, and the demand is steady.

MARKS.—Our market generally is very inactive; nevertheless, prices are supported. The best new hops are quoted at 4s. to 4s. 2d. per cwt.

POTATOES.—The supplies are increasing, and the demand is heavy, at from 60s. to 75s. per ton.

OLIVE OIL.—The supply is firm, at 2s. per cwt. Some light oil is in the market, at 1s. 10d. to 1s. 11d. per cwt. Other oils rule about stationary.

TALLOW.—The demand is heavy, at 4s. per cwt. for P.M.C. on the spot. The stock is 10,000 casks, against 9,000 in 1857, 18,000 in 1856, and 15,000 in 1855.

COALS.—The demand is heavy, at 15s. per ton. The stock is 10,000 tons, against 9,000 in 1857, 18,000 in 1856, and 15,000 in 1855.

IRON.—The demand is heavy, at 15s. per ton. The stock is 10,000 tons, against 9,000 in 1857, 18,000 in 1856, and 15,000 in 1855.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.—J. LARANCH, Edinburgh, hotel keeper; J. REID, Paisley, starch manufacturer; J. MINTOSH, Aberdeen, manufacturer; D. R. PATER, Dundee, draper; E. W. HARTIE, Leith, grocer; J. H. ROSS, Aberdeen, clothier; P. COMSTON, Macduff, draper.

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